

Village of Montpelier, Ohio Active Transportation Plan



Prepared by: Poggemeyer Design Group, Inc.

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Updated by ATP Committee 2/11/2020


Adopted by Council _____



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Montpelier Active Transportation Plan was a

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Chris Kannel, Council	Village of Montpelier
Nathan Thompson, Council	Village of Montpelier
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Denotes revised or new sections in 2020.





Executive Summary

The Village of Montpelier adopted an Active Transportation Plan (ATP) in September 2018. The ATP continues to serve as the long-range guiding document for the development of safe, user-oriented bicycle, pedestrian and multimodal connections within the village and to the western end of the Wabash Cannonball Trail. When complete, the network of trails will raise awareness of the historical, educational, recreational and natural value of the area, encourage healthy lifestyles and serve as a catalyst for economic development within the downtown.



This effort and idea is based on decades of discussion in Montpelier related to trails and recreational infrastructure. Appendix E – Minutes from the April 24, 1984 meeting of the Montpelier Recreation Board includes discussion about a proposed trail along the St. Joseph River.

This planning process built on “Moving Together: 2040 Transportation Master Plan” developed by Maumee Valley Planning Organization and engaged stakeholders within the region. During this planning processes, the village garnered grassroots support for the development of these trails through a series of news articles, steering committee meetings, surveys and public meetings.

Trails and greenways impact our economy through tourism, events, community improvement, property values, health care costs, jobs and investment, and consumer spending.

- “Economic Benefits Linked to Trails,” American Trails Magazine

The plan includes existing trails, current projects and proposed improvements. As seen on the mapping, there is an emphasis on routes. The recommended facilities include on-road facilities (signed bike routes, shared lanes, marked shared lanes, paved shoulders and bike lanes) and separated facilities (shared use paths, rails to trails) with a need for bicycle/pedestrian bridges, intersection improvements, trail access improvements and other accommodations to create a safe environment and serve the needs of pedestrians and cyclists. The plan also includes

recommendations to consider for the trail system such as trail amenities (wayfinding, bicycle parking and trail hubs) and the consideration of emergency access and trail safety. Educating the public, both drivers and cyclists, on bicycle laws, bicycle safety and the proper way to ride on the road, is a critical step in the implementation of this plan.





The implementation of this Plan continues to require the involvement of the Steering Committee partners as lead agencies, funding applications and partners that work to educate the public, develop programming, maintain the trail system and update the Plan. The Plan provides a list of prioritized routes and current and potential projects to be matched with available funding sources. This plan continues to guide the Village beyond the acceptance of the Plan to ensure the development of the Active Transportation network.



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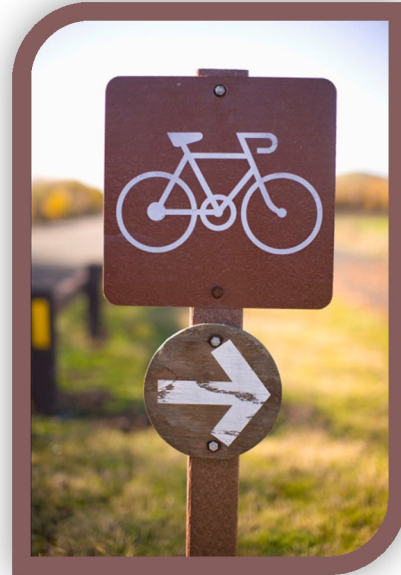


Appendix E – 1984 Recreation Board Minutes



Vision and Goals

The Village of Montpelier recognizes the opportunity to enhance the economic viability of the area by expanding trail and on-road facilities to points of interest within the community. The goal of the Village of Montpelier for Active Transportation is to expand on the existing trail within the County (Wabash Cannonball Trail), and to create a network of trails where walking and bicycling are safe, convenient and provide viable transportation and recreation options for residents of all ages and skill levels. These improvements will lead to enhanced economic development opportunities by supporting existing businesses as well as opening new business opportunities for entrepreneurs.



The Village of Montpelier has the potential to draw people to the community and its points of interest by expanding trails into the community and providing connectivity to destinations including the Williams County Fairgrounds, shopping/dining opportunities, the Montpelier Senior Center, cultural and historic sites including Main Street Park, Patriots Point Park, segments of the Underground Railroad, Williams County Veterans Memorial Building and Garden and the Williams County Historical Society. With the full implementation of its Active Transportation Plan, the village will also connect neighborhoods to both active and passive parks, water recreation, historic downtown, cultural and historic sites and Montpelier Public Schools.

Trails can be a valuable primary prevention tool by providing a safe, cost-effective way for individuals to acquire physical activity outdoors.

- [CDC Guide to Community Prevention](#)

The health benefits of trails may also encourage more use, as studies show that 30 minutes of daily physical activity can reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure and more. Walking and biking provide an easy and convenient way to meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommended 30 minutes of physical activity per day and can help communities lower their public health costs. The [CDC's Guide to Community Prevention](#) section, "[Creation of or Enhanced Access to Places for](#)

[Physical Activity Combined with Informational Outreach Activities](#)," gave trails the highest marks with a Strong Evidence of Effectiveness rating. Trails can be a valuable primary prevention tool by providing a safe and cost-effective way for individuals to acquire physical activity outdoors.

Existing Conditions

Wabash Cannonball Trail/ State Bike Route 90 - When Norfolk Southern Railroad announced the abandonment of service on the Wabash Cannonball rail line in 1990, several local visionaries and enthusiasts gathered to share ideas about creating a public recreational trail and utility corridor. Their dream became reality on March 24, 1994, when the corridor was purchased by Northwestern Ohio Rail to Trails Association, Inc. (NORTA). The Wabash Cannonball Trail, State Bike Route 90, is one of Ohio's longest rail-trails, covering a total of 63 miles and traversing four counties: Fulton, Henry, Lucas and Williams. The Trail is owned by several partners within the four counties. With the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) acting as coordinating partner for the project, the land-owning partners are Lucas County, the City of Maumee, NORTA, Metroparks of the Toledo Area, the City of Wauseon, and the Village of Whitehouse. Portions of the Wabash Cannonball Trail within Williams County are certified segments of the North Country National Scenic Trail, a 4,600 mile long hiking trail connecting the Lewis and Clark Trail in western North Dakota with the Appalachian Trail in upstate New York.

The Wabash Cannonball Trail terminates abruptly at County Road 13 at the eastern edge of the Village of Montpelier corporation limits. It currently lacks wayfinding signage and has very limited trailhead parking at this location. As part of ODOT's recent effort to designate State Bike Routes, the Wabash Cannonball Trail has been designated State Bike Route 90 and continues from the existing the Wabash Cannonball terminus to the south along County Road 13 then turning west on County Road K, continuing along the southern edge of Montpelier's corporation limits. Because this proposed route skirts the Village, it does not adequately connect neighborhoods, shopping, historic and cultural sites and other points of interest within the community.



The most significant challenge to developing a route connecting the Wabash Cannonball Trail to downtown is the need for an improved bridge that incorporates bike/pedestrian access or a separate pedestrian bridge on State Route 107/Main Street to accommodate a safe and convenient connection. ODOT is currently scheduled to resurface State Route 107 bridge (SFN 8602234) in Spring of 2019. The scope of this planned work will be reviewed and discussions have begun with ODOT on acceptable ways to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian travelers. ODOT will provide some improvements as part of the planned project but additional improvements including pedestrian specific signals, signage and related sidewalk and ramp work.

St. Joseph River Corridor - The St. Joseph River corridor is widely undeveloped as it runs through the Village. It is the ideal location to develop a trail network as well as create water access and additional passive and active recreation activities that presently do not exist. This area is a natural corridor between the Village Hall/Senior Center and the Williams County Fairgrounds/ Historical Society/Veterans Building. This separated trail will allow for the elimination of numerous driveway and intersection crossings. A separated path along the river will open up this natural area to create new opportunities for recreation, fitness and safe travel within the Village. The Village currently owns the 74+ acres adjacent to the river; some of the property is currently rented for farming while the balance is wooded with a narrow, unpaved trail. This path does not meet ADA or AASHTO standards. No trailheads, water access or amenities currently exist.



Main Street / State Route 107 Railroad Overpass – In 2019, ODOT completed renovations of the railroad overpass on East Main Street / State Route 107. Based on the 2018 ATP, the Village worked closely with ODOT and Poggemeyer Design Group and applied for ODOT safety grant funding to modify driving patterns and add bicycle lanes and crosswalks. This project provided the first significant improvement in the implementation of the ATP.



North-South Route – The ideal North-South Route would provide a direct connection between the Iron Horse Trailhead and Municipal Park following Pleasant Street. This is not possible due to the Norfolk & Southern railroad tracks that bisect the village. There are only two crossings over the rail line; one on State Route 107/Main Street and one on State Route 576/Old Platt Street. As identified in the Safe Routes to School study, the SR576 overpass does not have sidewalk and bike crossings that meet current codes.

The bridge itself has a 4' wide sidewalk. The drop off to the street is approximately eleven inches. There is no safety zone between the walk way and the edge of the road. There are no fences or gates to prevent falling into the roadway. The railing of the bridge is only 3'6" high. This could be impact not only to citizens trying to move away from approaching vehicles, but also does not provide adequate safety for those who may get struck and launched from an impact. There have been bicyclist/pedestrian-vehicle injury accidents that have occurred on the bridge.

Safe Routes to School – In 2011, Montpelier Schools and the Village of Montpelier received assistance from ODOT’s Safe Routes to School Program for the construction of roughly 0.88 miles of sidewalk in the southwest quadrant of the village along Maplehurst Avenue between Southwest Drive and Brown Road and on Brown Road between Maplehurst Avenue and Platt Street. This addressed the need to connect neighborhoods south of the Norfolk & Southern railroad tracks to the Montpelier School campus. Students living north of the railroad tracks have only one means to reach the campus, that is by utilizing the State Route 576/Old Platt Street bridge.



As part of the tentative 2020 Montpelier Park Plan additional routes to Montpelier School have been identified.

Strategies and Policies

Moving Together 2040 – Moving Together 2040 is a long range transportation plan which looks at the current state, future conditions and needs of the transportation system in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding and Williams counties in Northwest Ohio. Specific projects were identified and ranked in the plan and one of the top scoring projects was to enhance and extend the Wabash Cannonball Trail’s North Fork. The long range plan also indicated that providing more bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the region is a priority.



Williams County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) – In 2019, a Community Health Assessment (CHA) was conducted to identify key issues affecting the health of residents across Williams County. Due to the rising increase in weight among youth and adults in Williams County, obesity was selected as a priority to continue to address in the Community Health Improvement Plan. People who are obese or overweight are at an increased risk for many serious health conditions and diseases including high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, gallbladder disease, osteoarthritis, breathing problems, and cancer.

In Williams County, nearly three-quarters of adults (73%) were considered overweight (31%) or obese (42%) based on body mass index (BMI). The obesity rate in Williams County was significantly higher than Ohio’s average rate of obesity (34%) among adults. In addition, according to County Health Rankings, 31% of adults over the age of 20 in Williams County did not participate in any leisure time physical activity, which is much higher than the national average of 22%. Rates of obesity were also increasing among Williams County youth. In 2019, 14% of youth were obese and 14% were overweight. One-tenth (10%) of youth did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on any day in a given week, while 21% exercised for 60 minutes fewer than three days a week.

To address the rising problem of obesity among youth and adults, strategies were selected to include in the CHIP with the goal of increasing physical activity among adults and youth and reducing the health risks associated with obesity.

- Green space and parks, bike, and pedestrian master plans will be developed to create additional green space in Williams County. In the CHA, Williams County adults said they would use the community parks, bike trails, and walking paths more frequently if there were more available (30%); if existing parks, trails, or paths were improved (21%); or if there were designated safe routes (15%).
- Williams County will increase awareness of existing Complete Street policies and evaluate policy utilization.

Trails for Ohioans Plan, Ohio Department of Natural Resources - The plan provides a strategic approach for creating a system of recreational trails in Ohio by all levels of government and private trail groups and organizations. The ultimate vision of the plan is to link public lands, natural and scenic areas and communities with a multi-modal trail system. Highlights of the plan include:



- **Walking** for pleasure is the most popular outdoor recreation activity in the United States. In Ohio, more than 73% of households walk for pleasure an average of 68 times a year, according to the Ohio Trails Participation Survey. **Trails should be developed to link community resources** as well as transportation systems. To encourage safety, trails should be developed in safe, convenient and attractive environments. This could include better street crossings, signage, crosswalk markers, wider sidewalks, curb extensions and refuge islands.
- **Bicycling** continues to be one of the most popular outdoor pursuits nationally and in Ohio. Conflict with other trail users is, however, a problem. As a result, safety becomes an issue. Riders should be encouraged to get **proper training** before biking on trails.
Appropriate signage at trailheads and along trails should identify designated trails, advise riders of potential hazards and indicate if there are additional uses for the trail.
- Using trails to view and appreciate the natural environment is one of the most popular trail activities in Ohio. While **nature appreciation** can be a complementary component to virtually all trail activities, the high levels of participation are indicative of its importance as a motivator of trail use.
- Navigable streams exist in virtually all areas of Ohio. **Streams must have adequate access** or put-in and takeout points to make them ideally suitable as a water trail **for kayaks and canoes**.



Kayaking and canoeing were identified as emerging activities and gaining popularity.

- **2013 Ohio SCORP**

2013 Ohio Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

– For Northwest Ohio, walking and biking were identified as two of the activities that are on the increase. In addition, the development of shared use paths for bicycling and walking is identified as a major concern by the focus group participants, including more improved trails and connectivity among trails. Trail development projects should also include conveniences for users including restrooms, drinking water, adequate parking and security lighting. Public input also revealed resurgence in the interest in nature shaping a trend in Ohioans' outdoor recreation preferences. Specifically in Northwest Ohio focus



groups, kayaking and canoeing were identified as emerging activities and gaining popularity. The development of multi-use paved trails for bicycling and walking were also cited as the “major concern.”



2018 WEDCO Housing Study

Williams County Economic Development Corporation (WEDCO) in coordination with the Village and other Williams County Communities commissioned a housing study. Among other noteworthy observations, the following are particularly relevant to the ATP:

Rentals. 38.9% of respondents indicated that they would pay a little more for housing that had immediate access to walking trails/paths that were connected directly to parkland/reserved green space and/or entertainment/restaurants.

For-Sale. Two-thirds of the homeowner respondents would be willing to pay a little more for housing that had immediate access to walking trails/paths that were connected directly to parkland/reserved green space and/or entertainment/restaurants. It has been DDA’s experience that the premium for these types of locations can vary typically from 10% to 20%, depending on the location and the surrounding uses.



2020 Park Plan

The Village Park Board is currently evaluating existing park infrastructure and developing a plan for future improvements. This process is ongoing although both contributes to and draws from the Active Transportation Plan.

Types of Facilities

This report refers to the standard bicycle facility definitions identified by AASHTO's Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities (Fourth Edition). There are two main types of facilities that can be provided: separated facilities and on-road facilities.

Separated Facilities

Separated facilities are typically comprised of shared use paths and sidepaths, and, as indicated by the name, they are separated from motor vehicle traffic. In addition, they may be used by pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers and other non-motorized users.

A Shared Use Path is a bikeway physically separated from motor vehicle traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way.

A Sidepath is a shared use path located immediately adjacent and parallel to a roadway.

Rail Trails. An abandoned railroad corridor can be an ideal location for shared use paths. The existing Wabash Cannonball Trail is placed on an abandoned rail corridor.

On-Road Bicycle Facilities

Separated facilities cannot always be provided and aren't desirable for all users. On-road bicycle facilities tend to be more feasible in built environments. The following is a listing of the various on-road facilities with their respective definitions.

Shared Lanes. A lane of a traveled way that is open to both bicycle and motor vehicle travel, but doesn't necessarily have pavement markings or signage.

Sharrows. A shared-lane marking, or sharrow, is a street marking installed to indicate where people should preferably cycle. It is not a dedicated lane, but an indication of lane to be shared by bicycles and motor vehicles.

Marked Shared Lanes. A lane of a traveled way that is open to both bicycle and motor vehicle travel. The lane includes pavement markings to indicate appropriate bicycle positioning.

Paved Shoulders. The roadway shoulder is the portion of the roadway continuous with the traveled way that accommodates stopped vehicles and emergency use. Shoulders, where paved, are often used by bicyclists.



Bike Lanes. A portion of the roadway that has been designed for preferential or exclusive use by bicyclists using pavement markings and signs. It is intended for one-way travel, usually in the same direction as the adjacent traffic lane, unless designated as a contra-flow lane.



Barriers to Bicycle and Pedestrian Travel

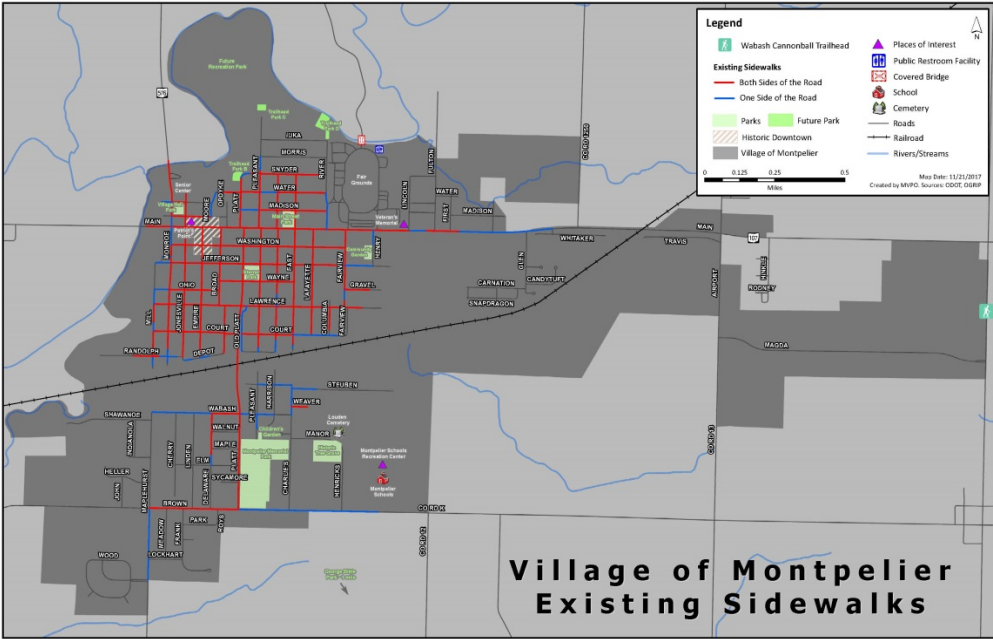
What are the barriers to bicycle and pedestrian travel? Why aren't more people bicycling and walking? The most common reasons, echoed in the survey results, are typically concerns about safety, a lack of facilities and routes, weather concerns and free time. The existence of physical barriers or connectivity gaps only adds to this.

In Montpelier, there are significant barriers:

- Lack of wayfinding signage
- Under developed trails and access
- Lack of adequate trailhead facilities
- Lack of signage of bike routes
- No defined bike routes connecting community assets
- ADA access over the Norfolk & Southern railroad along both State Route 107 and on Old Platt Street
- Gaps in sidewalks



Village side sidewalk inventory



Ways to Address Barriers

The following are ways to address common physical barriers to building bicycle and pedestrian facilities:

- Provide grade-separated bicycle and pedestrian crossings (bridges)
- Improve at-grade crossings of major arteries that are not limited access
- Install wayfinding signage and clear bike route markings
- Evaluate streets for the creation of dedicated bike lanes, shared lanes or the improvement of paved shoulders
- Identify and construct sidewalks where gaps exist
- Install trailhead facilities and trail amenities



Safety

Since studies indicate an increase in bicycling and walking in recent years, it would be expected that this increase would result in an increase in motor vehicle collisions involving bicyclists and pedestrians, but the opposite is actually true. When bikes and pedestrians are commonplace, motorists expect them and take precautions. By providing infrastructure for bikes and pedestrians, motorists are given visual reminders to anticipate others along the route. In addition, they know where to expect them. But additional efforts can be made.

Improving Safety

One of the goals of this plan is to improve the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. This can be accomplished through design, education and enforcement.

All roadway projects within the village should be evaluated to determine if the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians are being met in addition to motorists. This approach to roadway design is known as **Complete Streets**. Complete Streets is a transportation policy and design approach that requires streets to be planned, designed, operated and maintained to enable safe, convenient and comfortable travel and access for users of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation (National Complete Streets Coalition). This approach not only applies to new design or reconstruction, but also resurfacing projects. Existing traffic counts and patterns can be reevaluated prior to a reconstruction, but also resurfacing projects. Existing traffic counts and patterns can be reevaluated prior to a resurfacing to determine if the existing



conditions still warrant current lane configurations and widths. In some instances the number and width of vehicle lanes can be reduced in order to accommodate bike lanes. A reduction in lane width has also been shown to reduce vehicle speeds, further enhancing safety along a corridor.

Closing gaps in pedestrian facilities and addressing inadequate facilities will also enhance safety. These issues can be addressed as standalone projects, but should also be evaluated and improved as roadway projects are designed and constructed.

Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) programs have been instrumental in making changes in communities by involving parents, schools, community leaders and local, state and federal government to promote healthy living, safe infrastructure and physical activity starting with bicycling and walking to school. We encourage the Village to revisit the SRTS program to see if additional funding may be available to improve safety and increase accessibility by not only funding infrastructure improvements, but also safety education for children.



Improvements and Proposed Routes

Based on input from the public meeting, Steering Committee and existing transportation planning documents, a list of improvements has been developed. They have been broken down into four separate project areas:

- Iron Horse River Trail
- Veterans’ Memorial Trail/Extension of Wabash Cannonball Trail
- North-South Bike Route
- Ohio State Bicycle Route Signage

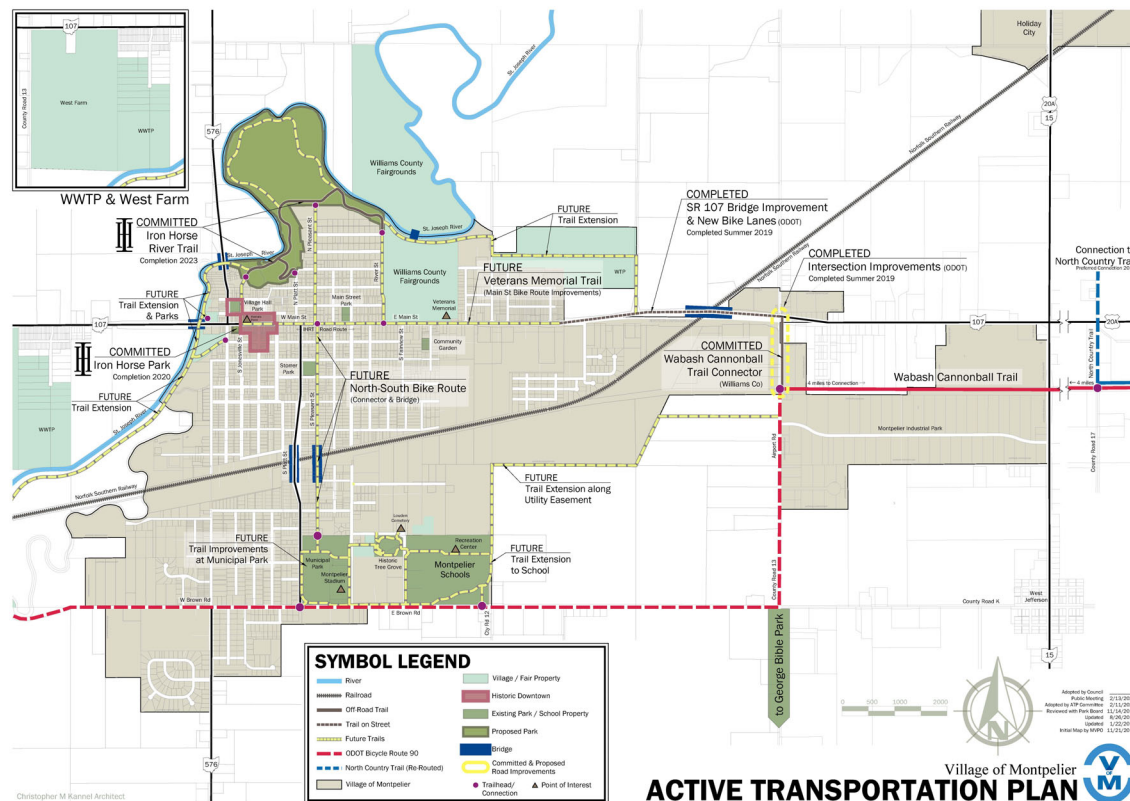
At the conclusion of the proposed development the existing Wabash-Cannonball Trail will be extended into the Village offering trail users of all ages and ability levels a wide variety of experiences and amenities.

Maps and cost estimates have been developed for each of these project areas. Cost estimates are for construction only and do not include any right-of-way acquisition, design/engineering or environmental testing.

Note: Larger format maps are included in Appendix A in this report.



Village-wide network of trails





Iron Horse River Trail

Initially proposed in 2016, the Iron Horse River Trail will be a new separated multiuse path along the St. Joseph River on 74+ acres of Village-owned property. The Trail will connect the Montpelier Senior Center to the Williams County Fairgrounds/Historical Society/Veterans Memorial Garden. A small unpaved path had previously been cleared in this area, but a network of paved and stoned 10' wide shared use paths would create ADA accessibility and allow users to enjoy this unique setting.

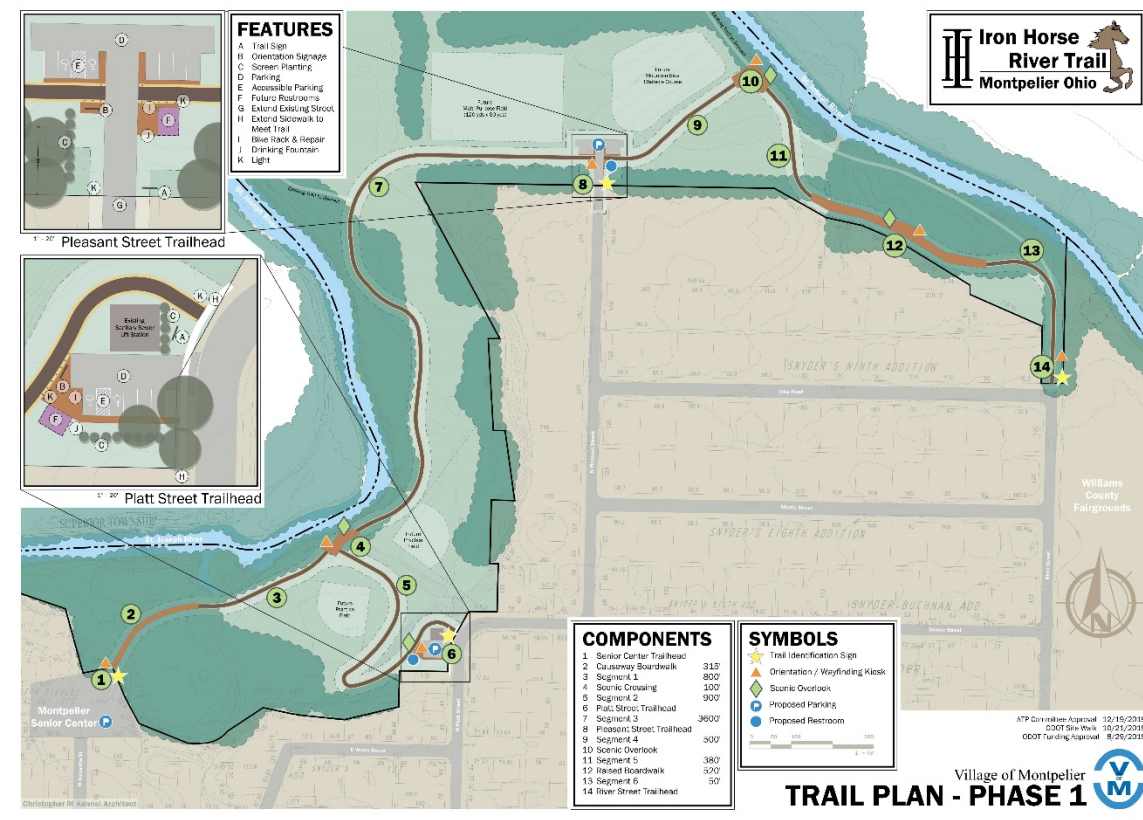
The initial 2018 application for ODOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds were denied. However, the second 2019 application resulted in an award of \$850,000.

Construction of Phase 1 is anticipated for 2023.

Northwest Ohio's farmlands, meadows, wetlands and woods are home to thousands of native treasures from trillium and burr oak to Bald Eagles and Northern Long-eared Bats. The St. Joseph River Corridor hosts a variety of endangered or threatened clams, bats, reptiles and plant species of special concern.

- Black Swamp Conservancy

Iron Horse River Trail - Phase 1 Plan



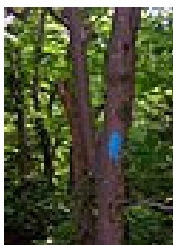
Iron Horse River Trail - Master Plan

Recommended future improvements include:

- Iron Horse River Connector multiuse paths and trail head(s)
- Iron Horse River Restrooms
- Iron Horse River Scenic Trail
- Iron Horse River Canoe/Kayak launch
- Blaze Trails
- Programming, Special Events and launch Education Programs
- Engage community volunteers to assist with sponsorships, enhancements
- Placemaking features
- Development of mapping/internet information promoting routes



Have you seen me?



I'm a BLAZE! Trail Blazes are a way of marking minimally developed paths in outdoor recreational areas. Blaze trails are great for the more adventurous hiker or runner.



Considering Conservation Easements: Protecting Land for Future Generations

A conservation easement is a restriction placed on a piece of property to protect its associated resources. The easement constitutes a legally binding agreement that limits certain types of uses or prevents development from taking place on the land in perpetuity while the land remains in the original owner's hands.

A land conservation agreement may cover the entire property or just a portion of it, such as the land along the banks of a river, leaving the option of development open for the remaining part. It may also allow limited construction or development within the area covered by the agreement. The wooded area along the St. Joseph River would be a prime area to consider creating a conservation easement with the **Black Swamp Conservancy**, a local land trust dedicated to protecting agricultural land and natural areas to preserve the rural heritage, unique natural habitats and lakes and streams of northwest Ohio. The easement selectively targets only those rights necessary to protect specific conservation values.

Easements are efficient and effective benefitting both the public and the environment. The creation of a conservation easement in this area would provide a variety of benefits. Low impact development including trails, observation decks, kiosks/signs could all be constructed on ground within a conservation easement. Water access, a kayak/canoe launch, may also be permitted. Additionally, the Black Swamp Conservancy can assist with invasive species removal, restoration and planting vegetation. The **Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Fund**, a special program designed to fund the preservation of open spaces, sensitive ecological areas and stream corridors, can provide 75% of the estimated costs for projects occurring with a conservation easement and cooperation with Black Swamp Conservancy.

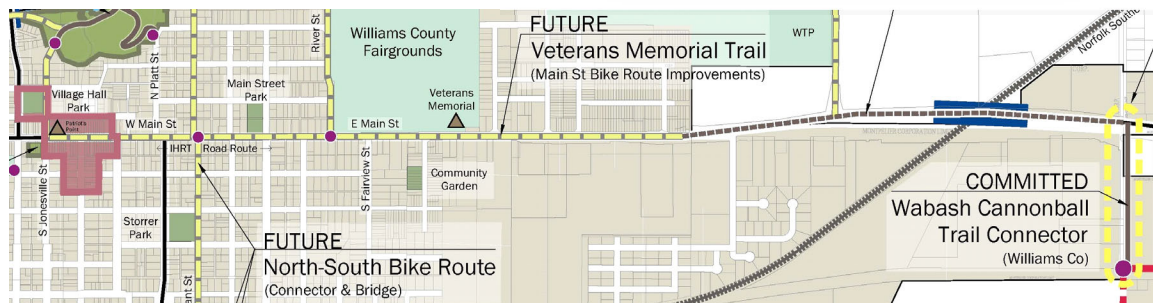




Veterans' Memorial Trail. Connection of the Wabash Cannonball Trail into downtown and establishing the Veterans' Memorial Trail is critical to the development of active transportation opportunities in Montpelier. This Trail will extend from the Wabash Cannonball terminus at County Road 13 north to State Route 107, turning west and passing Veterans' Memorial Garden, Williams County Historical Society, and Fairgrounds, Main Street Park and Patriots Point Park in downtown. The Trail will then pass Village Hall Park, the Montpelier Senior Center and connect to the Iron Horse River Trail. The completion of this route will be of significant value to both Wabash Cannonball Trail users and residents looking for longer trail experiences.



Veterans' Memorial Trail



Improvements include:

- Trailhead and signage at Wabash Cannonball Trail and County Road 13/Airport Road
- Elimination of sidewalk gaps/ADA improvements along State Route 107
- Existing bridge (SFN 8602234) enhancement or separate bicycle/pedestrian bridge over Norfolk & Southern Railroad
- Roadway route markings
- Improvements to Airport Road including paved shoulder for bike traffic
- Installation of wayfinding signage
- Additional of bike racks and bike “fix-it” station

Estimated Project Costs:

Construction cost

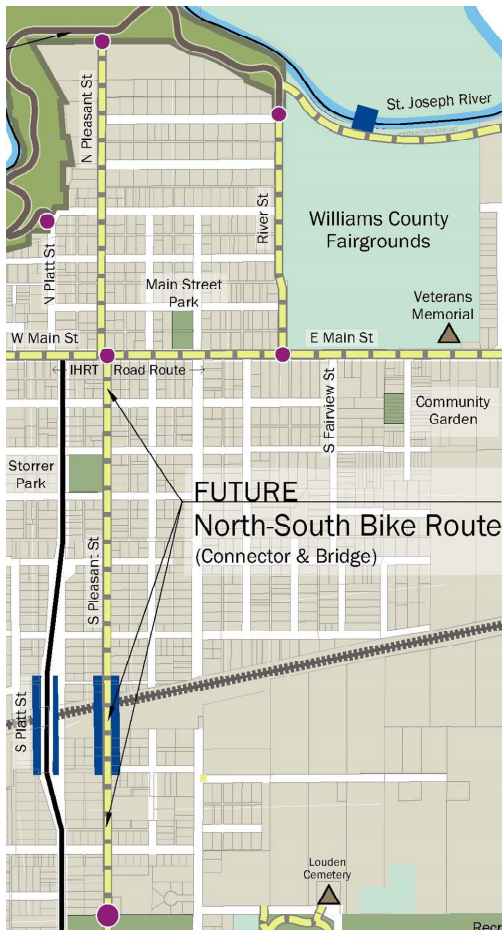
Trailhead, signage and trail counter at Wabash Cannonball Trail	\$60,000
Improvements to Airport Road (paved shoulder)	\$ - County engineer
Signage kiosk at Main Street Park/Williams Co. Fairgrounds	\$20,000
Bike racks and “Fix it” Station	\$5,000



North-South Bike Route

The North South Bike Route would connect Iron Horse River Trail and downtown to Memorial Park and connect to State Bike Route 90. It would primarily follow Pleasant Street with the addition of a pedestrian bridge over the Norfolk & Southern Railroad if feasible or improvements to the State Route 576 bridge on Platt Street. Improvements required include:

- Roadway route markings
- Elimination of sidewalk gaps along Pleasant Street and other areas where necessary
- Installation of a trailhead and signage at Memorial Park and County Road K/Brown Road
- Existing bridge enhancement or separate bicycle/pedestrian bridge over Norfolk & Southern Railroad



Coordination with both the Ohio Department of Transportation and Norfolk and Southern Railroad will be required before alternatives and cost estimates can be developed.

Estimated project costs:

Roadway route markings \$15,400

Installation of trailhead, signage and trail counter at Memorial Park/Co. Rd. K \$40,000

Sidewalk/pedestrian improvements (along Pleasant Street) *to be inspected*

Sidewalk/pedestrian improvements (along Platt Street) *to be inspected*

Existing bridge safety enhancements/
new pedestrian bridge *to be reviewed with ODOT*

Estimated cost to develop North South Trail:
\$55,400 plus add'l improvements as needed

Ohio State Bicycle Route Signing.

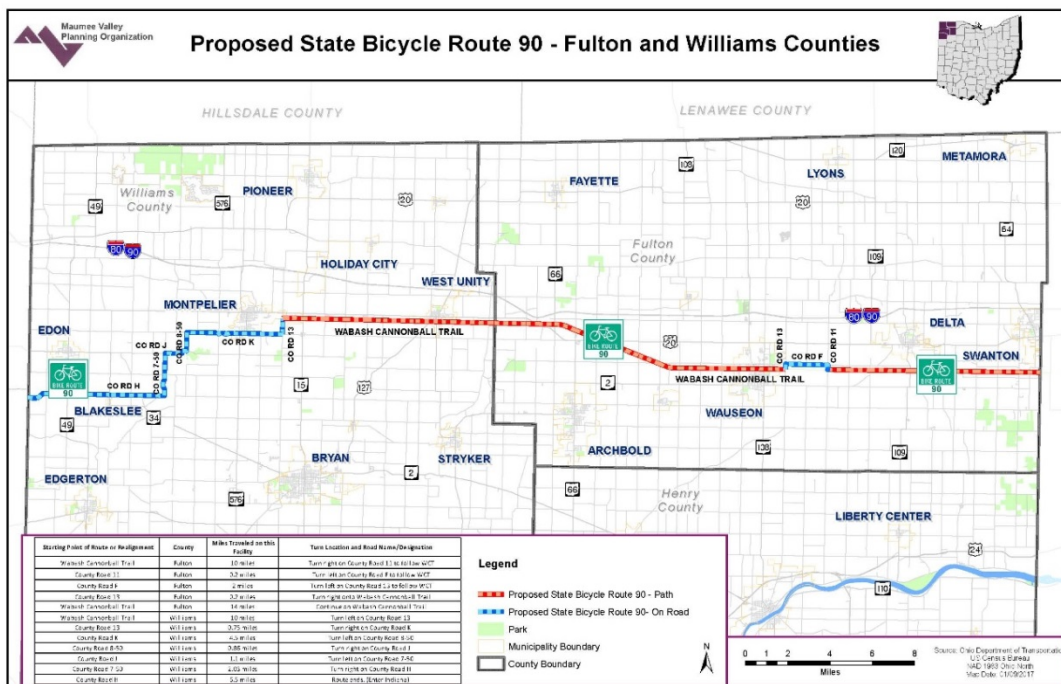
The identification of the Ohio Bike Route 90 has been an ongoing effort of ODOT with the assistance of Maumee Valley Planning Organization, the Regional Transportation Planning Organization.



The goal for these routes, whether separated facilities or on-road facilities, is to sign the route with uniform and recognizable bike route signs to help cyclists navigate the routes and give the network an identity.

Updates on the status of signage programs should be available through Maumee Valley Planning Organization and ODOT.

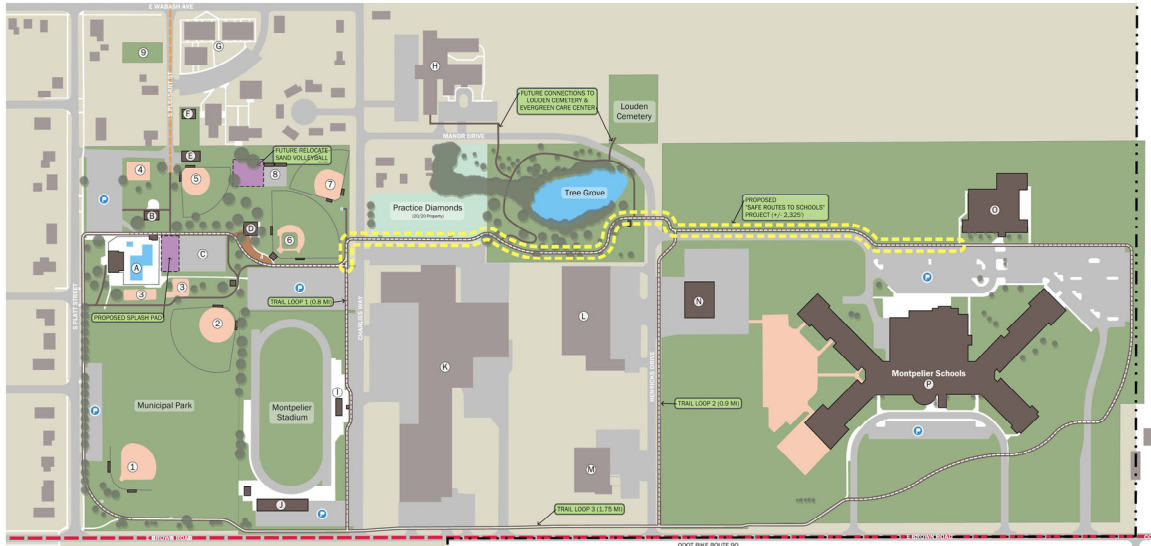
Ohio State Bicycle Route 90





School Connector

The Park Board is evaluating a tentative option to incorporate pedestrian and bicycle connections with the neighboring Tree Grove and Montpelier Exempted Village Schools. Previous work in 2011 (using Safe Routes to Schools funds) created pedestrian sidewalks along Brown Road to the front (south entrance) of the School campus. Future proposed connections would connect Municipal Park with the north / event entrance of the campus. These connectors would further provide a series of interconnected recreational loops for walking and/or cycling.



Cross Walk Improvements

Using the Village of Bexley, Ohio as a model, future crosswalk improvements might include color, pattern and even school insignia to enhance important street crossings. These improvements might relate to the trail or path of which they are a part or even relate nearby community features such as the School, Village Hall or the Montpelier Public Library.



Infrastructure

Important features of all routes will be the installation of signage (routes, trails, amenities, parking, etc.), bicycle racks and bicycle repair stations. These must be included in all future improvements.



Village of Montpelier

Trail Planning and Design Considerations

Emergency Access and Trail Safety

One shared concern for trail users common to any location is trail safety and security. Providing trail users information about what to do in case of an emergency, ensuring emergency access to all trail locations and providing adequate patrols are all keys to addressing this concern. Providing a location to the 911 operator is paramount in getting timely help.

With constant advances in technology, the Active Transportation Plan will not address the specifics of how this will be implemented on each project, however, providing emergency access should be a consideration in the design of all trail sections and assisting trail users to identify their location in the event of an emergency should be addressed. In addition, first responders must be made aware of access points on new trails, any vehicle restrictions in accessing specific locations and any obstructions such as bollards that may need to be removed or collapsed in order to gain access to trail sections.

Enforcement

The Montpelier Police Department and Montpelier Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for patrolling the trails developed within the Village. A Volunteer Park Patrol may be developed if additional assistance is required. On-Road facilities will be patrolled by the appropriate jurisdiction to enforce the legal and respectful use of the transportation corridors. Anecdotal evidence supports a lack of understanding of traffic laws and principles relating to bicycles, by both motorists and bicyclists, however, educating the public will help to create a safer environment as well.



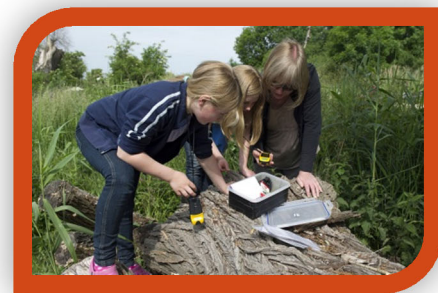
Trail Maintenance

Maintenance on the developing trail system within the Village of Montpelier is essential practice to ensure the longevity and continued use of the trails. Maintenance and signage within the corporation limits will be maintained by the Village and funded through a 3/10% income tax dedicated to Parks and Recreation. This tax generates roughly \$350,000 each year. The Village will continue to seek all available grants to assist with trail development and significant maintenance as allowable.

Local Support Programs

Typically, the main objective to bicycle planning is infrastructure improvements; however, support programs are also important because they increase the safety and the use of these facilities. The following is a summary of active transportation support programs the Village may want to initiate with the assistance of Collaborating Partners.

- Bicycle safety education (safety)
- Share the Road safety campaign (safety)
- Bicycle helmet distribution (safety)
- Every Move You Make, Make It Safe Initiative (safety)
- Volunteer Patrol Program (safety)
- Distribution of educational materials (education)
- Educate public through safety campaigns (education)
- Safety Town/Safety Village (education/safety)
- Hike for the Health of It, updated walking routes (health)
- Family Fitness Challenge (health)
- Adopt-a-Trail Programs (maintenance)
- Trail Improvement/Enhancement (maintenance)
- Bench Sponsorship Program (maintenance/promotion)
- 5K and 10K races (promotion)
- Fundraising & Events (promotion)
- Geocaching placement (promotion)
- Silver Sneakers Walking Club (promotion/health)
- Guided nature Walks (promotion/education)



Implementation

Transitioning from planning to implementation requires the coordination of many stakeholders and processes. While the Village of Montpelier commissioned this plan, there are many different stakeholders that will influence its success. On-going coordination between the village and the Ohio Department of Transportation, Maumee Valley Regional Planning Organization, Williams County Engineer, Williams County Health Department, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Northwestern Ohio Rails to Trails Association, Inc. is strongly encouraged.

Potential funding sources

In recent years, the Village of Montpelier has used a variety of funding sources to support parks and recreation capital projects. The Village's Park and Recreation fund, local private contributions along with grants from Ohio Department of Natural Resources have allowed for the development, maintenance and enhancement of the Villages existing parks.

The table below identifies potential funding sources for the variety of projects that have been identified in this Active Transportation Plan. Additional resources including private foundations and fund raising opportunities should also be explored.

Program	Local Minimum Match	Eligible Projects	Eligible Applicants
ODOT Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)	20% + Engineering	Multi-use paths that connect destinations. No set maximum award.	Local government, park district. Annual Feb. 1 Letter of Interest, Full Application due in May.
ODOT Safety Program	10-20% + Engineering	Bike/pedestrian facilities in high crash areas. Environment and safety education programs	State and local governments. Applications accepted bi-annually.
ODOT Surface Transportation Program (STP)	20% + Engineering	Bicycle lanes on roadway	State and local governments

CDBG Allocation; CDBG Critical Infrastructure (through County); CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Grant	Varies	Barrier removal for handicap accessibility, public facilities. Critical Infrastructure - \$300,000 max; NRG - \$500,000 max; Allocation – roughly \$35,000 max award.	Over 51% LMI or targeted population. Allocation and NRG submitted biennially (even years), Critical infrastructure bi-annually.
OPWC, Transportation Improvement Program	40% + Engineering	Bike and pedestrian facilities that are appurtenances to roadway project	Local government, Submissions due annually, date varies, typically September.
ODNR NatureWorks (allocations by County)	25%	Recreation/Park projects: acquisition, development & rehabilitation. Typical/max award \$30,000.	Local government, park district – Submissions accepted annually, March.
ODNR Clean Ohio Trails Fund (COTF)	25% (Can use as local match for ODOT funding)	Land acquisition, trail development, trailside and trailhead facilities, engineering & design, trail safety education. Max award \$500,000.	Local government, special districts, state and federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations – Submitted annually, February 1 st .
ODNR Recreational Trails Fund (RTF)	20%	Trail linkages, maintenance of existing trails, restoration of trail areas, improving access, acquisition. Max award \$150,000.	Local government, special districts, state and federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations – Submitted annually, February 1 st .
State of Ohio Capital Budget Appropriation (bi-annum)	Varies	Projects with political support and no other funding sources	Local government, districts, nonprofit organizations – request due even years.
National Recreation & Park Association – Ten Minute Walk Grant	None Indicated	\$40,000 to develop best, measurable commitment to Ten Minute Walk Campaign	Local governments, park districts

Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Program	25%	Acquisition and limited improvements preserving open spaces and sensitive ecological areas	Local governments, conservancy districts, park districts. Submitted annually through OPWC
ODNR Land & Water Conservation Fund	50%	Acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas. Minimum award \$50,000, maximum award \$500,000.	Local governments, conservancy districts, park districts. Federal reauthorization of program required. Applications due Nov. 15, 2018.
ODNR NatureWorks	75%	Wide-variety of park and public recreation projects. Maximum available set per county.	Local governments, park districts. Annual application, submitted May 1 st .
AARP Community Challenge Grants	100%	Quick action grants to improve transportation and mobility, create vibrant community spaces for all ages	Local government, nonprofits. Annual application, submitted on or around June 1 st .
Doppelt Family Trail Development Fund	100%	Improvements to trails; fill critical gaps in construction. Awards range from \$5,000-\$50,000	Local governments, park districts, conservancy districts. Submission due January 2019.



Engineering

Additional concepts for bicycle and pedestrian facilities have been promoted and implemented throughout the United States; however, for federally funded projects, ODOT currently requires conformance to the standards in the following manuals:

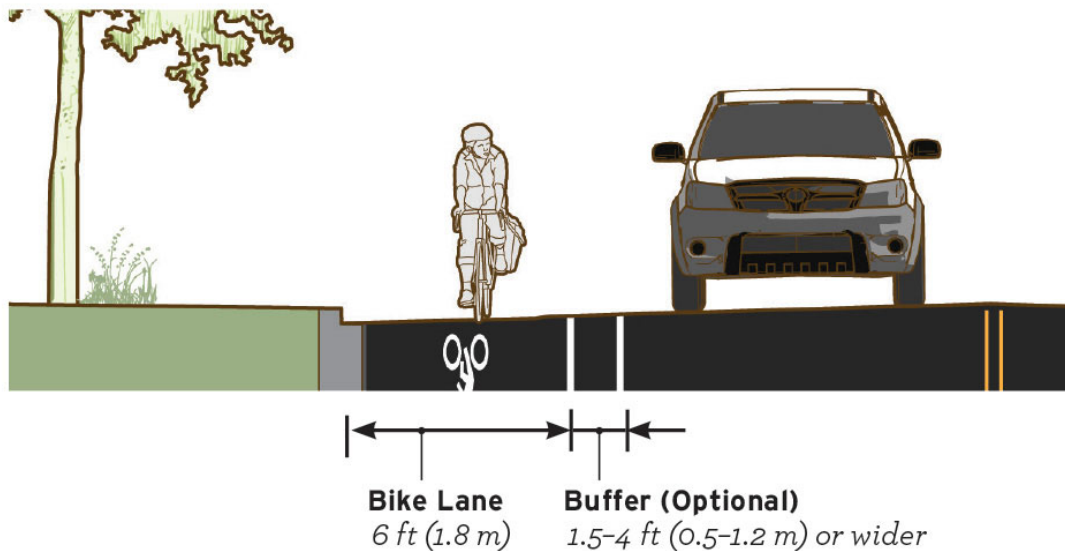
Location and Design Manual, Volumes I, II & III – Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

The Ohio Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices – Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 2012 – American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

Guide for the Planning, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities – American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO)

In addition, the Federal Highway Administration supports taking a flexible approach to bicycle and pedestrian facility design, recognizing that AASHTO bicycle and pedestrian guides are the primary resource for planning and designing bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Design guidance and standards are constantly evolving, now more than ever. All federally funded projects will adhere to current ODOT requirements.



Implementation Strategies

The development of the Active Transportation Plan provides the long-term vision for the expansion of the village-wide active transportation network to be used by all residents for all types of trips. The following strategies are provided to aid the Steering Committee in the implementation of this plan.

Strategy 1: Strategically Pursue Infrastructure Projects

Maximize opportunities to make improvements by encouraging collaborative partners to pursue funding for projects within the local jurisdiction. If available funding or construction of an improvement within another roadway project make the construction of a lower priority project possible, then the Village may advance that project, regardless of priority.

Strategy 2: Continual Review and Evaluation of Existing Infrastructure for All Users

The Steering Committee will evaluate existing road facilities with excess vehicular capacity within the Village to determine the feasibility of lane diets/road diets ahead of roadway resurfacing projects in an effort to reconfigure lanes or reduce lane widths allowing for reallocation of pavement width to accommodate all users, regardless of their mode of transportation. (Complete Streets)

Strategy 3: Grow Public Awareness and Bicycle Safety

Provide, support and fund educational programming to promote public awareness and bicycle safety. In addition, support and encourage active transportation within the community.

Strategy 4: Update the Active Transportation Development Plan

Routes have been identified and included in the plan based on safety, public input and transportation benefit. It is recommended that the routes be reviewed every fiscal year, with completed projects removed, new projects added and priorities revised as conditions change.

Strategy 5: Seek Ongoing Public Input

In conjunction with the review of the Development Plan every fiscal year, input should be sought from the public and the stakeholders regarding projects completed and evolving needs of the community.

Strategy 6: Collaborate with ODOT and other Stakeholders

Since ODOT is the coordinating agency in the establishment and development of the State bike Route System, the Steering Committee should acknowledge the benefit of communicating, collaborating and coordinating with this agency as well as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization to receive input into route modification and recommendations on prioritizing projects. Additional stakeholders including the Northwestern Ohio Rails to Trails Association, the Williams County Health Department, Williams County Engineer and the Black Swamp

Conservancy District can also help further the mission of creating safe active transportation opportunities.

Strategy 7: Document Success

Document every policy change, education opportunity provided, brochure produced, bike rack added, newly signed bike route, mile of shared use path constructed or pedestrian facility installed. Take before and after pictures for every project. Alert the media and share successes through Village newsletters and social media. Steering Committee and collaborative partners should meet on an annual basis for information sharing between agencies and to document progress.

Strategy 8: Establish Measures of Effectiveness

The primary goal of the Active Transportation Plan is to develop a connected physical network of on-road and separated facilities that will serve all bicyclists and pedestrians for all trip types. Developing the facility network will reduce gaps and eliminate barriers, two of the main problems that prevent people from utilizing active transportation more often. Creation of both on-road and separated facilities with appropriate markings and signage will create an environment appropriate for non-motorized traffic, increasing pedestrian and bicyclist safety.

Measures of Effectiveness are used as a quantitative way to measure the progress towards implementing the Active Transportation Plan and will track progress toward meeting an agreed-upon goal within an established timeframe. Eight categories have been identified for describing active transportation measures:

1. Health: individual activity levels; safety: number of collisions, crime rate
2. Multimodal Performance: user counts
3. Equity: ADA access
4. Education: number of available active transportation programs, participation in the programs, level of staff training, shifting modes of transportation to walking and biking
5. Access: Trail connections and gap closures
6. Infrastructure: bicycle & pedestrian enhancements on the street network, quality shared use paths installed, quality of enhancements measured through user comfort, number of bicycle racks, level of investment
7. Economic Development: evaluate through sales records, property values
8. Place making: Number of community events, presence of wayfinding

Plan Support

This Active Transportation Plan provides a structure of all of the elements necessary for success in implementing the measures outlined; however, the success, in the end, comes down to people willing to work to take these vital steps to accomplish the goals set forth in this plan.



Funding Awards and Pending Applications (as of January 2020)

The Village of Montpelier, supported by Maumee Valley Planning Organization and Poggemeyer Design Group, is already making efforts to secure funding for the development of Active Transportation. The Village recognizes the opportunity to enhance the economic viability of the area by improving and expanding trails as well as providing viable transportation and recreation options for residents of all ages and fitness levels.



2018 Ohio Capital Budget (ODNR) - \$325,000

On January 8, 2018, representatives from the Active Transportation Plan Steering Committee met with Senator Rob McColley. Senator McColley, along with State Representative Jim Hoops, secured \$300,000 from the Ohio Capital Budget for facilities related to “Rails to Trails”.

These funds were initially planned to complement funding sources for the Iron Horse River Trail. When the Village’s initial application TAP funds was denied the Village requested permission to reallocate the Capital Budget funds. With the permission of Senator McColley and Representative Hoops, the Village is working to complete Iron Horse Park in downtown Montpelier by Summer 2020.

Funds were awarded June 18, 2018



ODOT Safety Funds - \$113,820

Coordinated with ODOT and the Village Active Transportation Plan, the East Main Street (State Route 107) overpass at Norfolk Southern railroad was improved to include bicycle lanes. The Village was awarded ODOT Safety Funds to assist in the installation of crosswalks and signals at the intersections with Whitaker Way and Airport Road.

Funds were awarded April 11, 2019



ODOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) - \$850,000

Initially denied in 2018, the 2019 request for the Iron Horse River Trail was approved. The ATP Committee is currently working to secure a design engineer to shepherd the project to construction in 2023.

Funds were awarded September 19, 2019

**ODNR Clean Ohio Trails – \$89,395**

Application was made in cooperation with the Williams County Engineer for a bike path connector between the Wabash Cannonball Trailhead at County Road 13 in Montpelier and the Main Street (State Route 107) / Airport Road intersection.

Funds were CONDITIONALLY awarded December 19, 2019.

Unsuccessful Funding Applications**National Recreation and Park Association, 10-Minute Walk Grant - \$40,575**

In March 2018, a request was submitted requesting grant assistance totaling \$40,575 for planning services. Wayfinding Planning, Brand Development and Community Outreach would be the focus of this effort. It would also include GIS Mapping and ADA evaluation with regard to the implementation of the Active Transportation Plan.

Funds were not awarded

Public Participation & Planning Process

Meetings and Development Ideas

In August 2017, a committee was formed to discuss facilitating bicycle and pedestrian connections within the Village of Montpelier and connecting to the Wabash Cannonball Trail. This committee is outside of both Village Council and Park and Recreation Committee and includes a variety of community representatives including the Williams County Health Department, Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association and veterans organizations. Since that time, the Montpelier Active Transportation Plan Steering Committee has met and shared information, coordinated with Maumee Valley Planning Organization, the regional transportation planning organization, sought public input through two public meetings, worked with local media to promote participation and solicit feedback and worked to develop the ideas and input into a development plan to provide the Village the background, direction and tools needed to increase active transportation opportunities within the community, while improving the safety and health of the community and encouraging economic development.

Public Outreach and Input

Public Meeting #1 – On October 31, 2017, the Village hosted a public forum at the Montpelier Fire Station to receive input about the desired destinations, ideas for future expansion, desired amenities and other needs of trail users in the area. Attendance at the meeting was 34 persons ranging from elementary aged students to senior citizens (some participants even traveled to the meeting on their bikes!).



After a brief overview of the goals of the Montpelier Active Transportation Plan (to develop safe, user-oriented bicycle/pedestrian facilities that build on existing trails, recreation areas, historic and natural sites, neighborhoods, shopping and other regional connections), benefits of active transportation and trail terms were discussed.

Councilman Chris Kannel discussed the proposed route and the proposed first phase of the bike trail project along the St. Joseph River. The trail will be a variety of trail types – paved shared use path, shoulder style lanes and shared lane markings/sharrow as feasible throughout the village. The discussion focused on potential connections, trail construction and features, amenities and programs/education/outreach to help get people active. Sign in sheet, Power Point presentation and full minutes of the meeting and discussion are attached.

Surveys were also distributed collecting feedback about current trail usage, activities, desired amenities, what would encourage longer trips and information sharing.

Public Meeting #2 – On January 19, 2018, the second public forum was held at the Montpelier Fire Station to discuss specifics of proposed trail routes, improvements, intended amenities, estimated costs and funding sources. 34 people signed in at the Public Meeting.

After a brief Welcome by the mayor, the meeting was officially called to order because four council people were in attendance even though no official action was to be taken.

An overview of the DRAFT Montpelier Active Transportation Plan was presented. The plan reflects the results of survey and community feedback into the development of a network of trails within the village and connecting to State Bicycle Route 90/Wabash Cannonball Trail. Existing conditions of the proposed routes were reviewed. The Iron Horse River Trail (the new trail along the St. Joseph River connecting the senior center to the fairgrounds) was identified as the top priority. Development plans, associated costs and potential funding sources for that trail were discussed. Thanks was given to McCaulley Associates for preparing both the Clean Ohio Trails Fund and Transportation Alternative Program applications in an effort to move this project forward. It was also noted that discussions with the Williams County Commissioners and Sen. Rob McColley had already taken place to raise awareness and potentially secure funding. Richard Shatzer, local ODOT representative, was in attendance and discussed plans for the rehabilitation of the bridge on State Route 107. Improvements are slated to be bid in early 2019. Additional discussions regarding design specifics were scheduled. Sign in sheet, Power Point presentation and full minutes of the meeting and discussion are attached.

General Active Transportation Survey - A General Active Transportation Survey was distributed to first-time meeting participants at both public meetings. The survey collected feedback about current trail usage, activities, desired amenities, what would encourage longer trips and information sharing. A total of 49 surveys were completed. **A summary of the survey results from both meetings is attached.**

Requested Improvements - Improvements favored by participants in the public meetings and survey include:

- A multiuse path to access to the St. Joseph River with river overlooks and benches, restroom facilities and a kayak/canoe launch (Identified as the Iron Horse River Trail).
- “Lightly” developed paths near the St. Joseph River were requested for people who enjoy true trail running
- Signage kiosks throughout the Village
- Trailheads with adequate parking and lighting
- Restrooms and water fountains
- Connections to Wabash Cannonball Trail and North Country Trail
- Programming to encourage community participation/use of the trails
- Bridge improvements for bicyclists and pedestrians on State Route 576/Platt Street Bridge or separated pedestrian bridge



Committee Meeting #1 – An initial update meeting was held November 19, 2019. The Committee met with Tim Bock from Poggemeyer Design Group to evaluate the \$850,000 ODOT TAP award for the Iron Horse River Trail, costs to the Village associated with the project and timeline/milestones to complete the project. Construction of this project is anticipated in 2023.

Consensus was reached to separate the IHRT into two phases. Phase 1 (previously Trail Segments 1, 2 & 3) would include the scope of the project to be funded by ODOT TAP funds. Phase 2 (previously Trail Segment 4) may be the subject of future grant applications or may remain a dirt trail for equestrian and mountain bike uses.

The committee began initial discussions on the update of the Active Transportation Plan. Future meetings will be scheduled.

Committee Meeting #2 – The ATP Committee met December 19, 2020 and accomplished two primary objectives:

1. The ATP Committee adopted the tentative Phase 1 plan for the Iron Horse River Trail. The Master Plan has been updated to reflect the intended focus on Segments 1, 2, & 3 of the original Master Plan. Committee also reviewed tentative budget and schedule provided by Poggemeyer Design Group.

Next step: Village administration will coordinate a RFQ package for design engineer. RFQ should be ready for review and approval by Village Council by the end of January with selection of a design engineer by April 1, 2020.

2. Review of proposed updates to the Active Transportation Plan (map and narrative). Some responsibilities were assigned for completion of critical items in the narrative including:
 - a. Values for grant applications and awards.
 - b. Dates of award for grant applications.
 - c. Details on updates to the Community Health Improvement Plan.

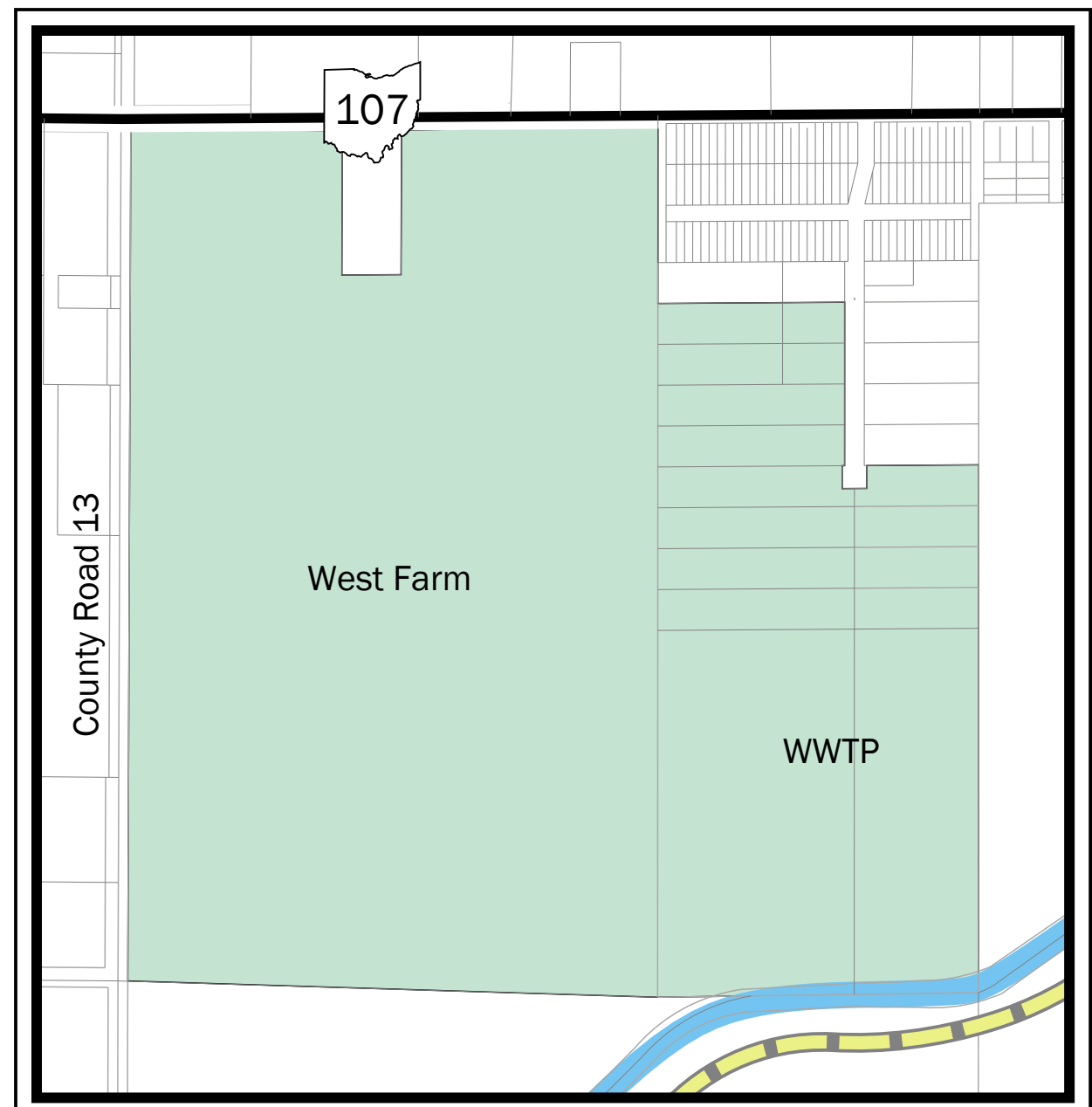
A public meeting has been scheduled by Village Council for Thursday, February 13, 2020 to present the current plan, current and future projects in the Village.

Committee Meeting #3 – The ATP Committee met February 11, 2020:

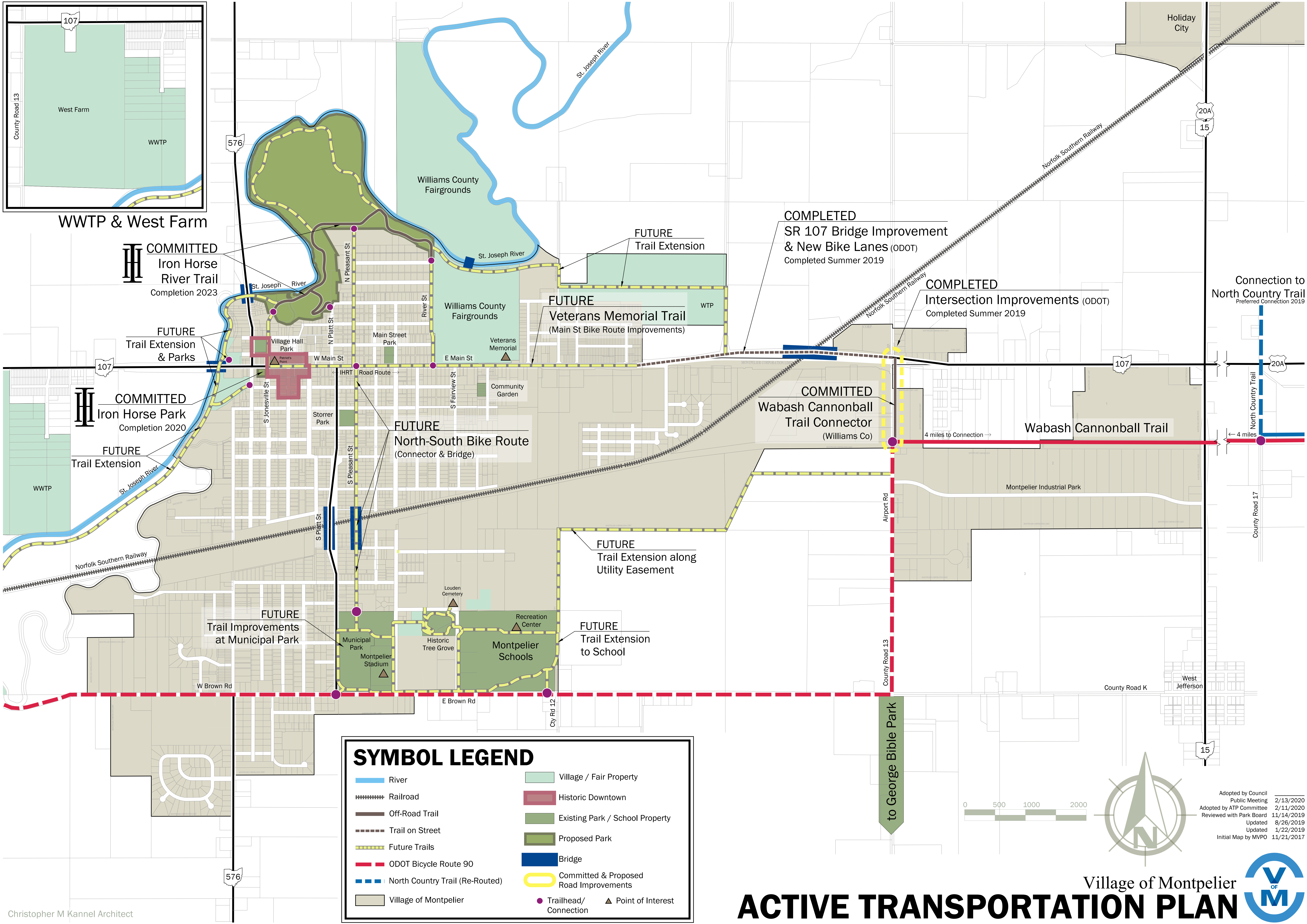
1. Reviewed ATP current and future projects.
2. Reviewed 2/13/2020 public meeting priorities.
3. Recommended ATP for Council approval.

Public Meeting – February 13, 2020 – ATP was presented in a public meeting. Notes from that meeting are part of the Council record.



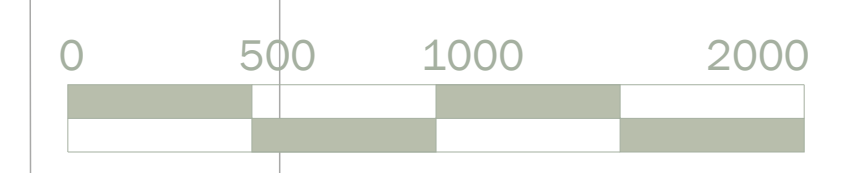


WWTP & West Farm



SYMBOL LEGEND

River	Village / Fair Property
Railroad	Historic Downtown
Off-Road Trail	Existing Park / School Property
Trail on Street	Proposed Park
Future Trails	Bridge
ODOT Bicycle Route 90	Committed & Proposed Road Improvements
North Country Trail (Re-Routed)	Trailhead/ Connection
Village of Montpelier	Point of Interest



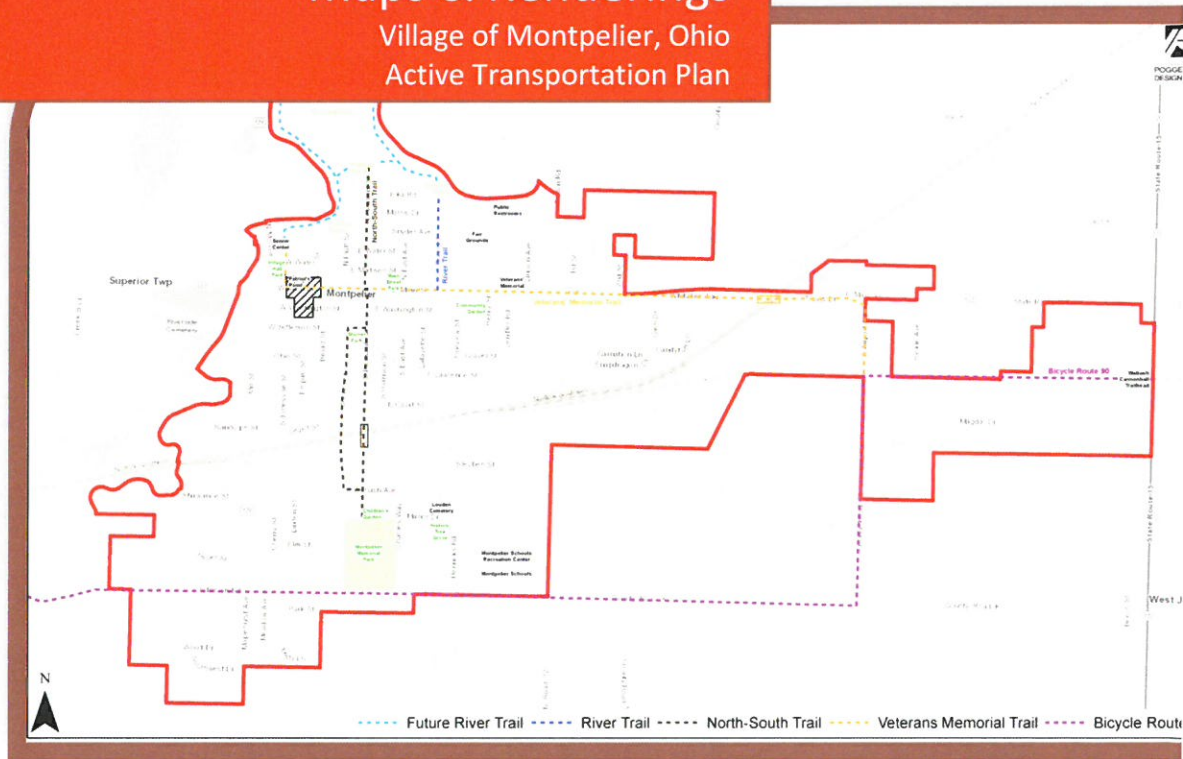
Adopted by Council Public Meeting 2/13/2020
 Adopted by ATP Committee 2/11/2020
 Reviewed with Park Board 11/14/2019
 Updated 8/26/2019
 Updated 1/22/2019
 Initial Map by MVPO 11/21/2017

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN




















Village of Montpelier

Appendix A Maps & Renderings Village of Montpelier, Ohio Active Transportation Plan

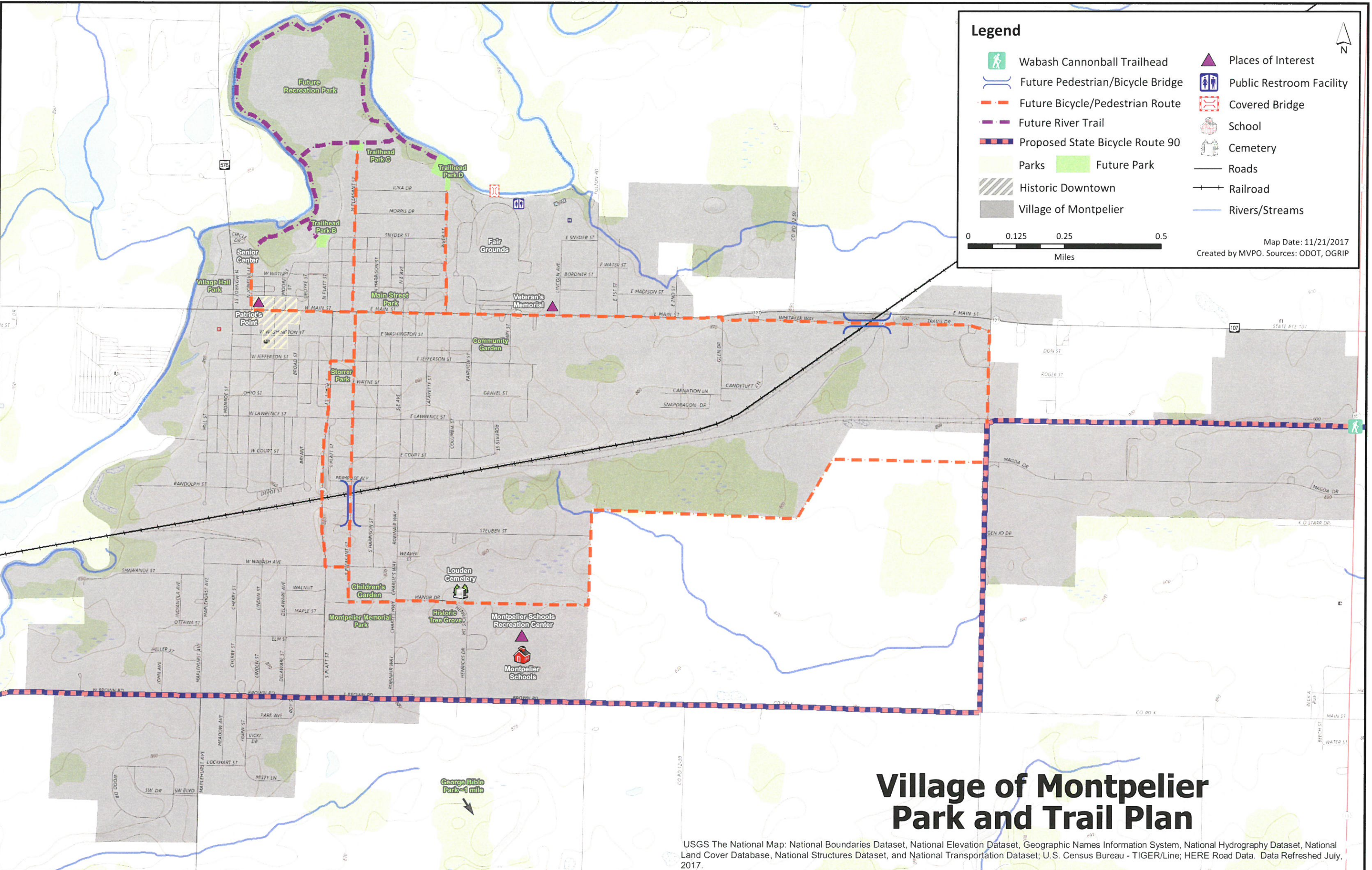


Legend

-  Wabash Cannonball Trailhead
-  Future Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge
-  Future Bicycle/Pedestrian Route
-  Future River Trail
-  Proposed State Bicycle Route 90
-  Parks
-  Future Park
-  Historic Downtown
-  Village of Montpelier
-  Places of Interest
-  Public Restroom Facility
-  Covered Bridge
-  School
-  Cemetery
-  Roads
-  Railroad
-  Rivers/Streams



Map Date: 11/21/2017
Created by MVPO. Sources: ODOT, OGRIP



George Bible Park - 1 mile

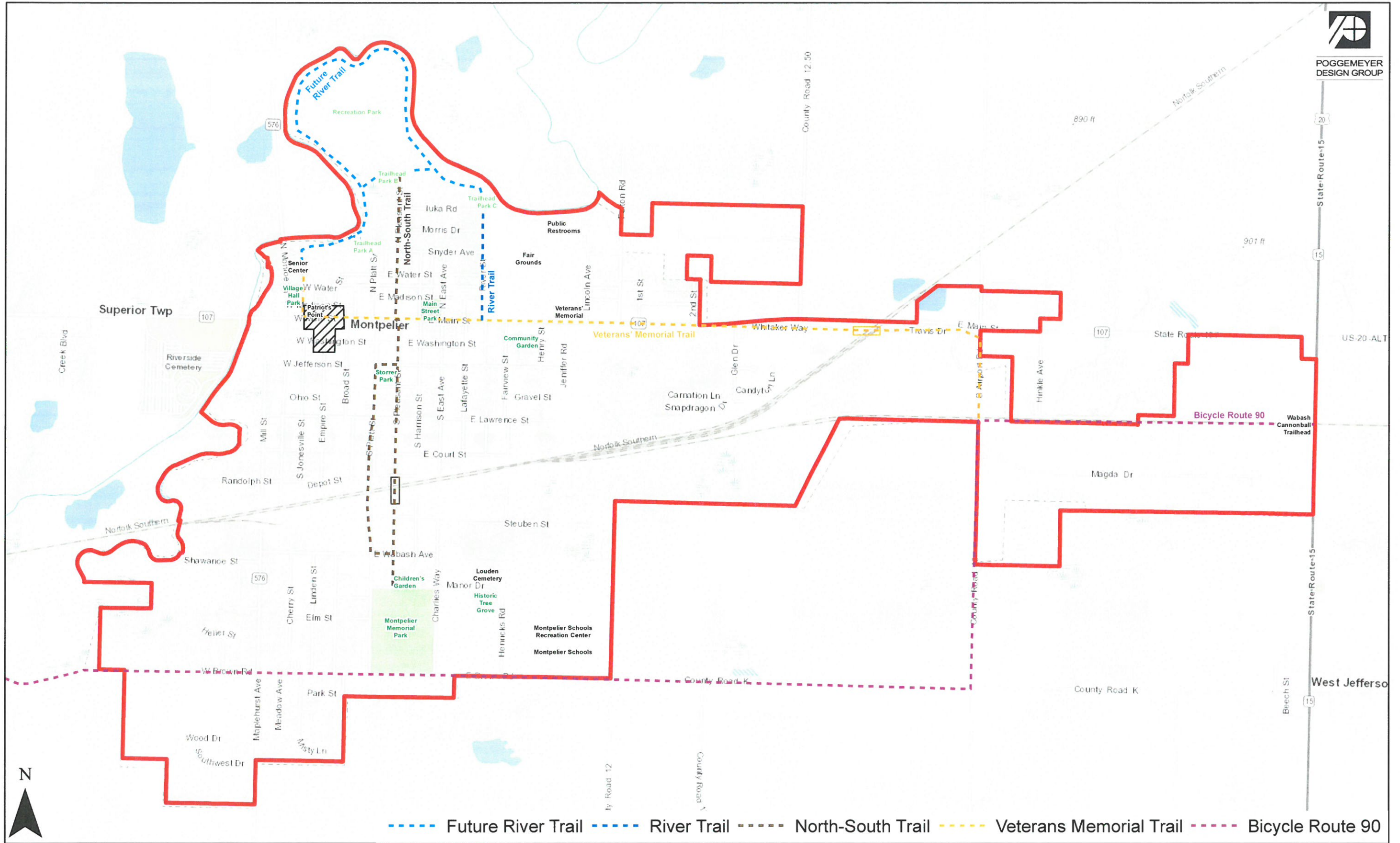
Village of Montpelier Park and Trail Plan

USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, National Elevation Dataset, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; U.S. Census Bureau - TIGER/Line; HERE Road Data. Data Refreshed July, 2017.

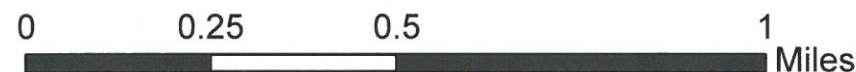
Village of Montpelier Park and Trail Plan



POGGEMEYER
DESIGN GROUP



Future Park Current Park Place of Interest



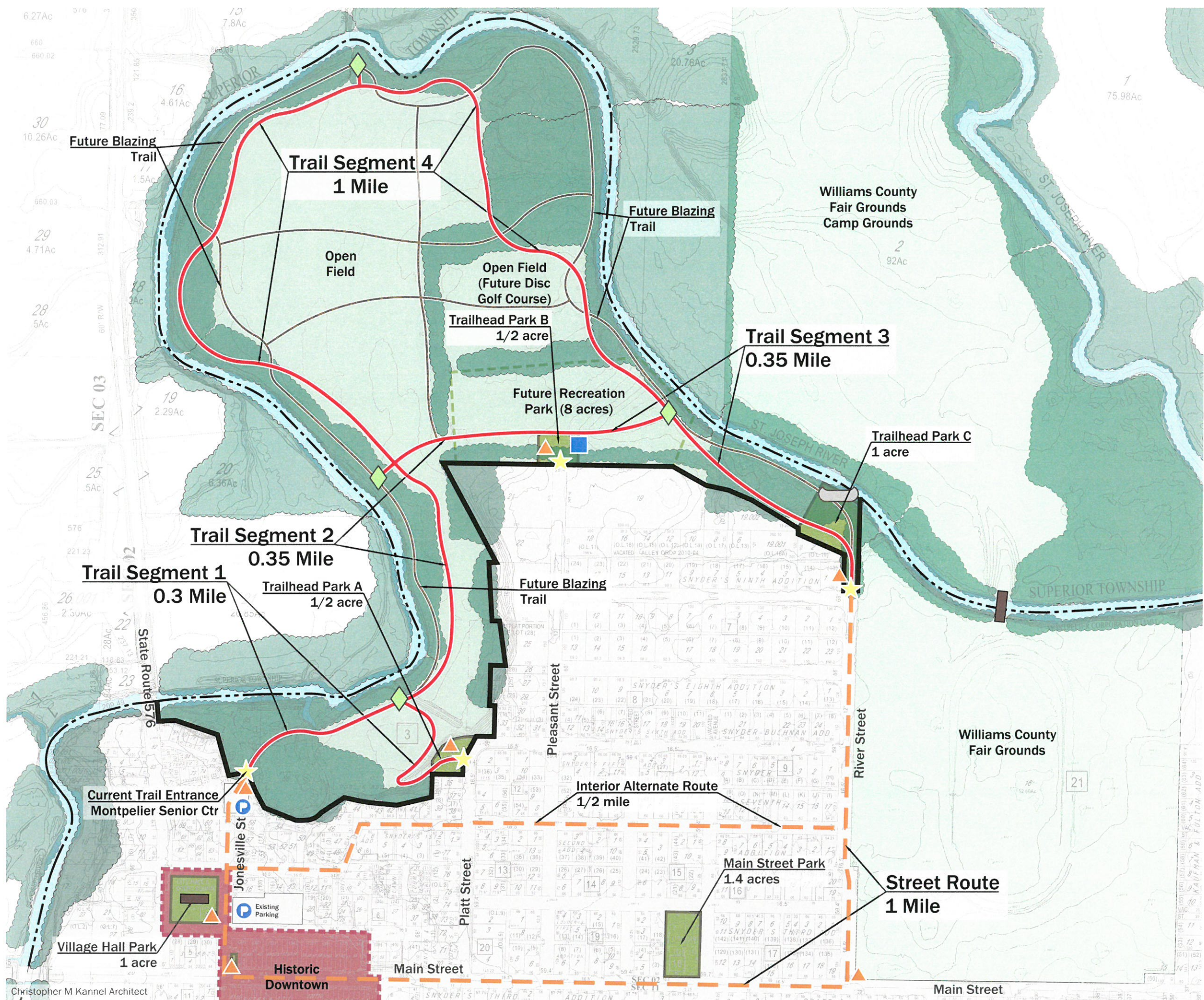
Historic Downtown Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Iron Horse River Trail

Montpelier Ohio



Master Plan



- Plan Key**
- Proposed River Trail
 - Proposed Blazing Trail
 - - - Proposed Route thru town
 - Park - Existing & Proposed
 - Parking
-
- ★ Trail Entrance/ Gateway (4)
 - Proposed Restrooms (1)
 - ▲ Wayfinding Kiosk (7)
 - Canoe/Kayak Launch (1)
 - ◆ Scenic Overlook (4)
 - P Existing Parking



Short Course = 1 mile
 Long Course = 1.5 miles
 Street Route = 1 mile
 Outer Circuit = 2.5 miles

Steering Committee 4/10/2018
 Steering Committee 1/9/2018
 Presented to Council 1/8/2018
 Public Hearing 11/28/2017
 Updated 6/27/2017
 Initial Draft 8/12/2016

Iron Horse River Trail

Montpelier Ohio

Master Plan



Plan Key

- Proposed River Trail
- Proposed Blazing Trail
- - - Proposed Route thru town
- Park - Existing & Proposed
- Parking

- ★ Trail Entrance/Gateway (4)
- Proposed Restrooms (1)
- ▲ Wayfinding Kiosk (7)
- ⌋ Canoe/Kayak Launch (1)
- ◆ Scenic Overlook (4)
- P Existing Parking

0 100 400

Short Course = 1 mile
 Long Course = 1.5 miles
 Street Route = 1 mile
 Outer Circuit = 2.5 miles

Steering Committee	4/10/2018
Steering Committee	1/9/2018
Presented to Council	1/8/2018
Public Hearing	11/28/2017
Updated	6/27/2017
Initial Draft	8/12/2016



POGEMEYER DESIGN GROUP, INC.

ARCHITECTS - ENGINEERS - PLANNERS
1168 NORTH MAIN STREET
BOWLING GREEN, OHIO 43402
PH.: (419) 352-7537

Engineer's Opinion of Probable Costs

Client: Village of Montpelier, Ohio **Date:** 1/30/2018
Project: Iron Horse Multi-Use Path - Phase 1 **Calculated By:** JLB
PDG No. : 158500-00018 **Checked By:** TJB
Description:
A 10-foot wide asphalt multi-use path approximately 0.30 mile long.

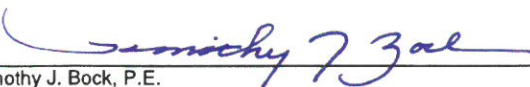
Item No.	Item	Units	Total Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
Segment 1					
				Length, mile =	0.30
203	Excavation	C.Y.	592	\$ 20.00	\$ 11,831.11
204	Subgrade Compaction	S.Y.	1936	\$ 1.50	\$ 2,904.00
304	8" Aggregate Base	C.Y.	430	\$ 70.00	\$ 30,115.56
407	Tack Coat (0.04 Gal/SY)	Gallon	70	\$ 3.00	\$ 211.20
441	1 1/4" Asphalt Surface Course, Type 1, PG64-22	C.Y.	61	\$ 350.00	\$ 21,388.89
441	1 3/4" Asphalt Intermediate Course, Type 2, PG64-22	C.Y.	86	\$ 250.00	\$ 21,388.89
602	Concrete Masonry (Headwalls)	C.Y.	17	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
611	48" Conduit Type A, (1 Culvert)	FT.	20	\$ 300.00	\$ 6,000.00
651	Topsoil Furnished & Placed (3")	C.Y.	59	\$ 40.00	\$ 2,346.67
659	Seeding & Mulching, Class 5B	S.Y.	704	\$ 1.00	\$ 704.00
Subtotal =					\$113,900

General					
202	Clearing & Grubbing	Lump	1	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
203	Embankment/Borrow	C.Y.	400	\$ 15.00	\$ 6,000.00
204	Proof Rolling	Hour	2	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00
Spec	Restoration	Lump	1	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Spec	Temporary Construction Access	Lump	1	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Spec	Trailhead	EA.	1	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
607	Fence, Misc.: Wood Fence	FT.	280	\$ 40.00	\$ 11,200.00
630	Traffic Control	Lump	1	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
623	Construction Layout Staking	Lump	1	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
624	Mobilization	Lump	1	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
832	Erosion Control	Lump	1	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
832	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan	Lump	1	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Subtotal =					\$46,100



Construction Subtotal	\$ 160,000
10% Contingency	\$ 16,000
Construction Total	\$ 176,000
Basic Engineering Services	\$ 22,400
Construction Administration	\$ 17,600
Subsurface Investigation	\$ 4,000
Environmental	\$ 8,000
Construction Testing	\$ 6,000
Project Total	\$ 234,000

Note: Estimate does not include path lighting or permit fees. Environmental includes preparation of the initial environmental document/assessment and/or wetland delineation.


Timothy J. Bock, P.E.

**POGGEMEYER DESIGN GROUP, INC.**

ARCHITECTS – ENGINEERS - PLANNERS
 1168 NORTH MAIN STREET
 BOWLING GREEN, OHIO 43402
 PH.: (419) 352-7537

Engineer's Opinion of Probable Costs

Client: Village of Montpelier, Ohio **Date:** 1/24/2018
Project: Iron Horse Multi-Use Path **Calculated By:** JLB
PDG No. : 158500-00018 **Checked By:** TJB
Description:
 A 10-foot wide asphalt multi-use path approximately one mile long with 12 foot wide elevated boardwalks.

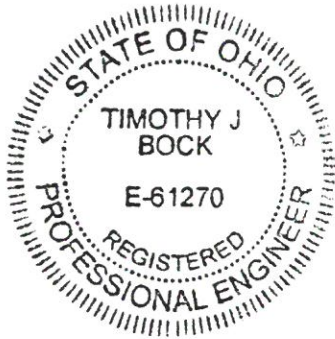
Item No.	Item	Units	Total Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
Segment 1					
				Length, mile =	0.30
203	Excavation	C.Y.	592	\$ 15.00	\$ 8,873.33
204	Subgrade Compaction	S.Y.	1936	\$ 1.00	\$ 1,936.00
304	8" Aggregate Base	C.Y.	430	\$ 50.00	\$ 21,511.11
407	Tack Coat (0.04 Gal/SY)	Gallon	70	\$ 2.25	\$ 158.40
441	1 1/4" Asphalt Surface Course, Type 1, PG64-22	C.Y.	61	\$ 265.00	\$ 16,194.44
441	1 3/4" Asphalt Intermediate Course, Type 2, PG64-22	C.Y.	86	\$ 190.00	\$ 16,255.56
602	Concrete Masonry (Headwalls)	C.Y.	17	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
611	48" Conduit Type A, (1 Culvert)	FT.	20	\$ 300.00	\$ 6,000.00
651	Topsoil Furnished & Placed (3")	C.Y.	59	\$ 40.00	\$ 2,346.67
659	Seeding & Mulching, Class 5B	S.Y.	704	\$ 1.00	\$ 704.00
			Subtotal =		\$91,000
Segment 2					
				Length, mile =	0.35
203	Excavation	C.Y.	690	\$ 15.00	\$ 10,352.22
204	Subgrade Compaction	S.Y.	2259	\$ 1.00	\$ 2,258.67
304	8" Aggregate Base	C.Y.	502	\$ 50.00	\$ 25,096.30
407	Tack Coat (0.04 Gal/SY)	Gallon	82	\$ 2.25	\$ 184.80
441	1 1/4" Asphalt Surface Course, Type 1, PG64-22	C.Y.	71	\$ 265.00	\$ 18,893.52
441	1 3/4" Asphalt Intermediate Course, Type 2, PG64-22	C.Y.	100	\$ 190.00	\$ 18,964.81
651	Topsoil Furnished & Placed (3")	C.Y.	68	\$ 40.00	\$ 2,737.78
659	Seeding & Mulching, Class 5B	S.Y.	821	\$ 1.00	\$ 821.33
			Subtotal =		\$79,300
Segment 3					
				Length, mile =	0.35
203	Excavation	C.Y.	690	\$ 15.00	\$ 10,352.22
204	Subgrade Compaction	S.Y.	2259	\$ 1.00	\$ 2,258.67
304	8" Aggregate Base	C.Y.	502	\$ 50.00	\$ 25,096.30
407	Tack Coat (0.04 Gal/SY)	Gallon	82	\$ 2.25	\$ 184.80
441	1 1/4" Asphalt Surface Course, Type 1, PG64-22	C.Y.	71	\$ 265.00	\$ 18,893.52
441	1 3/4" Asphalt Intermediate Course, Type 2, PG64-22	C.Y.	100	\$ 190.00	\$ 18,964.81
651	Topsoil Furnished & Placed (3")	C.Y.	68	\$ 40.00	\$ 2,737.78
659	Seeding & Mulching, Class 5B	S.Y.	821	\$ 1.00	\$ 821.33
			Subtotal =		\$79,300

Segment 4 (Stone Only)

				Length, mile =		1.00
203	Excavation	C.Y.	1972 \$	15.00	\$	29,577.78
204	Subgrade Compaction	S.Y.	6453 \$	1.00	\$	6,453.33
304	8" Aggregate Base	C.Y.	1434 \$	50.00	\$	71,703.70
407	Tack Coat (0.04 Gal/SY)	Gallon	235 \$	2.25	\$	528.00
441	1 1/4" Asphalt Surface Course, Type 1, PG64-22	C.Y.	204 \$	265.00	\$	53,981.48
441	1 3/4" Asphalt Intermediate Course, Type 2, PG64-22	C.Y.	285 \$	190.00	\$	54,185.19
602	Concrete Masonry (Headwalls)	C.Y.	51 \$	1,000.00	\$	51,000.00
611	48" Conduit Type A, (1 Culvert)	FT.	60 \$	300.00	\$	18,000.00
651	Topsoil Furnished & Placed (3")	C.Y.	196 \$	40.00	\$	7,822.22
659	Seeding & Mulching, Class 5B	S.Y.	2347 \$	1.00	\$	2,346.67
Subtotal =				\$295,600		

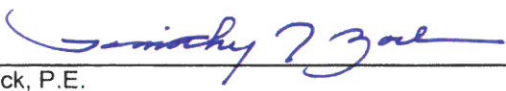
General

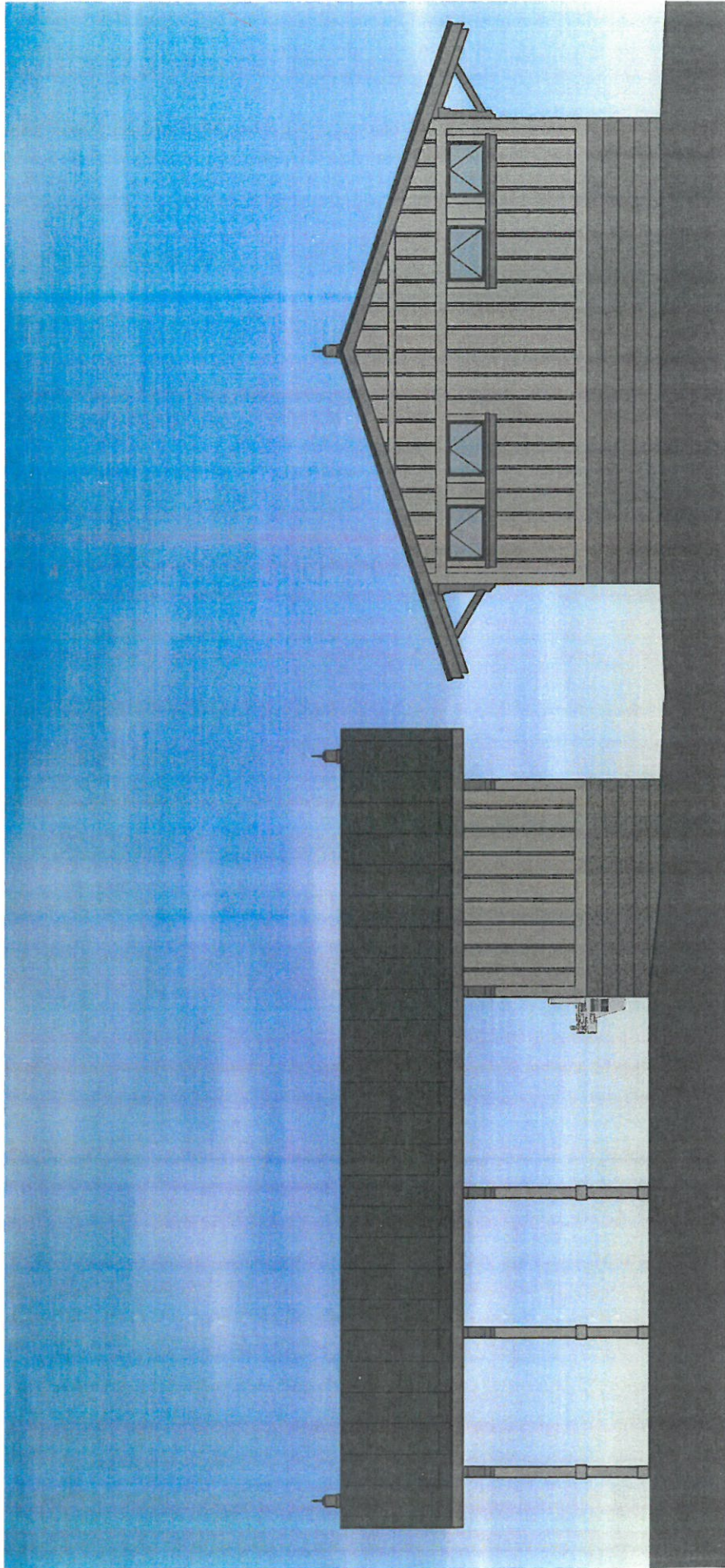
202	Clearing & Grubbing	Lump	1 \$	50,000.00	\$	50,000.00
203	Embankment/Borrow	C.Y.	2000 \$	15.00	\$	30,000.00
204	Proof Rolling	Hour	9 \$	100.00	\$	900.00
Spec	Restoration	Lump	1 \$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00
Spec	Soil Sterilant	S.Y.	14000 \$	0.75	\$	10,500.00
Spec	Temporary Construction Access	Lump	1 \$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
Spec	12' Wide Elevated Boardwalk, Treated Wood	FT.	1056 \$	250.00	\$	264,000.00
Spec	Trailhead	EA.	2 \$	5,000.00	\$	10,000.00
Spec	Restroom	Lump	1 \$	95,000.00	\$	95,000.00
Spec	Furnishings (Benches, etc.)	Lump	1 \$	15,000.00	\$	15,000.00
607	Fence, Misc.: Wood Fence	FT.	1400 \$	40.00	\$	56,000.00
625	Conduit, 2"	FT.	10000 \$	6.00	\$	60,000.00
630	Traffic Control	Lump	1 \$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00
623	Construction Layout Staking	Lump	1 \$	7,500.00	\$	7,500.00
624	Mobilization	Lump	1 \$	30,000.00	\$	30,000.00
832	Erosion Control	Lump	1 \$	3,800.00	\$	3,800.00
832	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan	Lump	1 \$	4,100.00	\$	4,100.00
Subtotal =				\$659,800		



<i>Construction Subtotal</i>	\$	1,205,000
<i>10% Contingency</i>	\$	120,500
Construction Total	\$	1,325,500
<i>Basic Engineering Services</i>	\$	144,600
<i>Construction Administration</i>	\$	132,550
<i>Subsurface Investigation</i>	\$	15,000
<i>Environmental</i>	\$	30,000
<i>Construction Testing</i>	\$	20,000
Project Total	\$	1,667,650

Note: Estimate does not include path lighting (only conduit installation) or permit fees.


 Timothy J. Bock, P.E.



A EXTERIOR ELEVATION
1 N.T.S.

A EXTERIOR ELEVATION
1 N.T.S.



ECOS Environmental Conservation Online System

Conserving the Nature of America

[ECOS](#) / [Species Reports](#) / [Species By County Report](#)

Species By County Report

The following report contains Species that are known to or are believed to occur in this county. Species with range unrefined past the state level are now excluded from this report. If you are looking for the Section 7 range (for Section 7 Consultations), please visit the [IPaC](#) application.

County: Williams, Ohio

[Download CSV](#)

Need to contact a FWS field office about a species? Follow [this link](#) to find your local FWS Office.

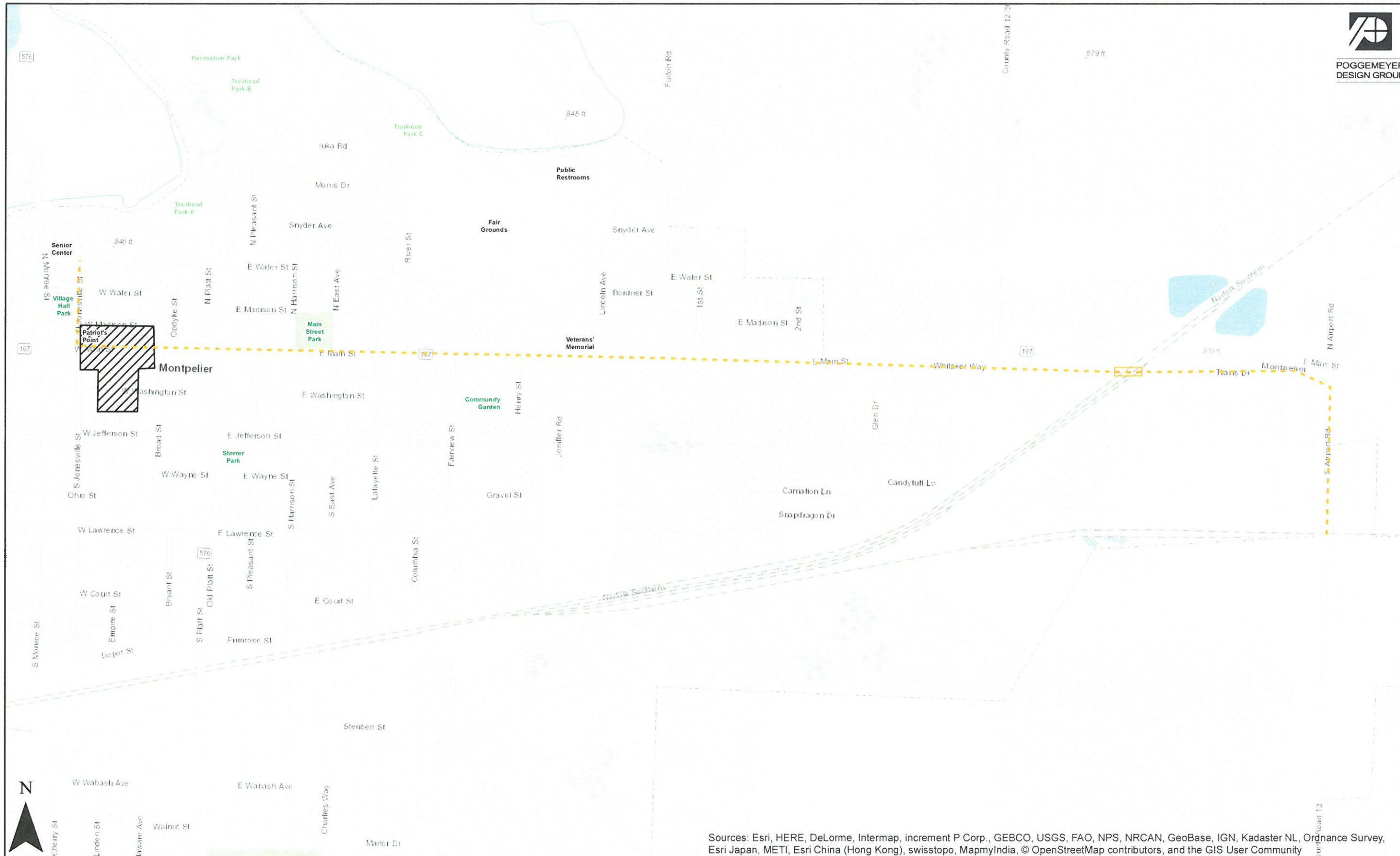
Group	Name	Population	Status	Lead Office	Recovery Plan	Recovery Plan Action Status
Birds	Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	lower 48 States	Recovery	Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office	Southeastern States Bald Eagle Recovery Plan	Implementation Progress
Birds	Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	lower 48 States	Recovery	Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office	Recovery Plan for the Pacific Bald Eagle	Implementation Progress
Birds	Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	lower 48 States	Recovery	Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office	Southwestern Bald Eagle Recovery Plan	Implementation Progress
Birds	Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	lower 48 States	Recovery	Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office	Chesapeake Bay Bald Eagle Recovery Plan	Implementation Progress
Birds	Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	lower 48 States	Recovery	Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office	Northern States Bald Eagle Recovery Plan	Implementation Progress
Clams	White catspaw (pearlymussel) (<i>Epioblasma obliquata perobliqua</i>)	Wherever found	Endangered	Ohio Ecological Services Field Office	White Cat's Paw Pearly Mussel	Implementation Progress

Group	Name	Population	Status	Lead Office	Recovery Plan	Recovery Plan Action Status
Clams	Rayed Bean (<i>Villosa fabalis</i>)	Wherever found	Endangered	Ohio Ecological Services Field Office		
Clams	Clubshell (<i>Pleurobema clava</i>)	Wherever found; Except where listed as Experimental Populations	Endangered	Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office	<u>Clubshell/Northern Riffleshell (2 spp.)</u>	<u>Implementation Progress</u>
Clams	Northern riffleshell (<i>Epioblasma torulosa rangiana</i>)	Wherever found	Endangered	Pennsylvania Ecological Services Field Office	<u>Clubshell/Northern Riffleshell (2 spp.)</u>	<u>Implementation Progress</u>
Clams	Rabbitsfoot (<i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i>)	Wherever found	Threatened	Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office		
Insects	Monarch butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus plexippus</i>)	Wherever found	Under Review	Division of Conservation and Classification		
Mammals	Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>)	Wherever found	Endangered	Indiana Ecological Services Field Office	<u>Indiana Bat (Myotis sodalis) Draft Recovery Plan: First Revision</u>	<u>Implementation Progress</u>
Mammals	Northern Long-Eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Wherever found	Threatened	Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office		
Reptiles	Copperbelly water snake (<i>Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta</i>)	Indiana north of 40 degrees north latitude, Michigan, Ohio	Threatened	Michigan Ecological Services Field Office	<u>Approved Recovery Plan for the Copperbelly Water Snake Northern Distinct Population Segment</u>	<u>Implementation Progress</u>

Veterans Memorial Trail

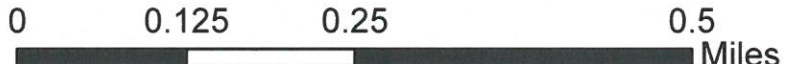


POGGEMEYER
DESIGN GROUP



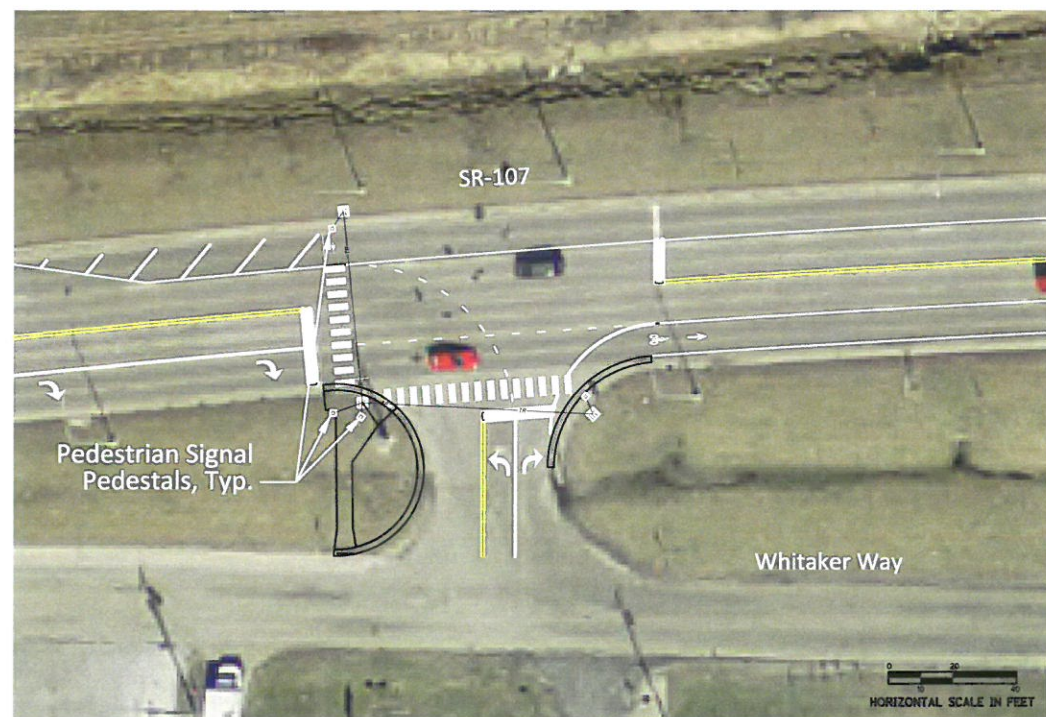
Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Future Park
Current Park
Place of Interest
 Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

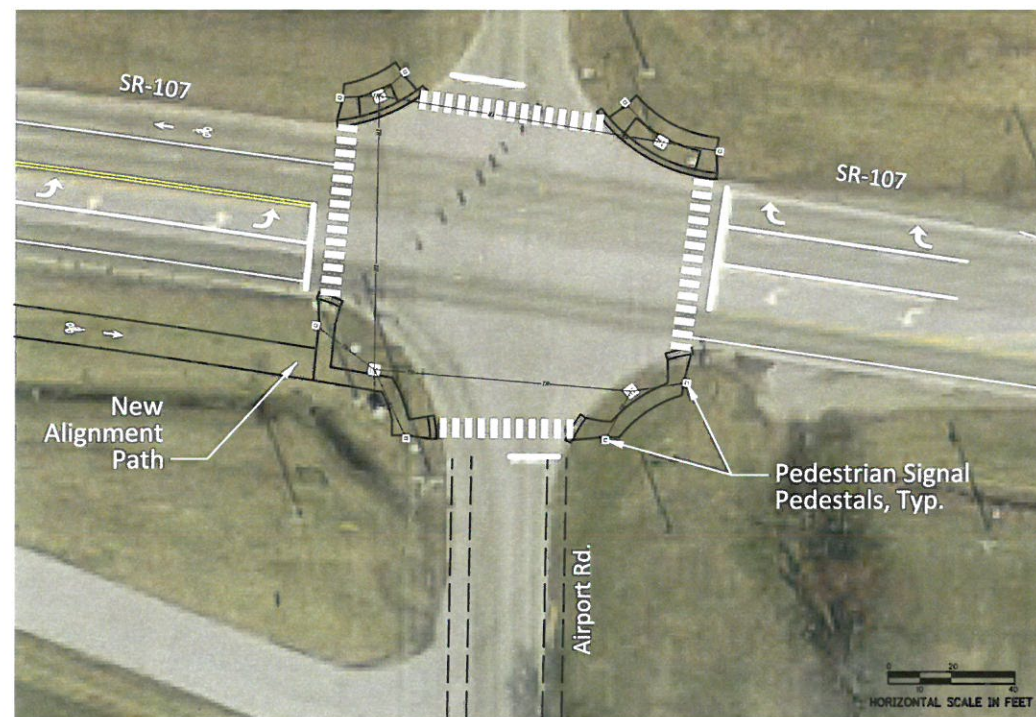


Historic Downtown
 Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

Village of Montpelier, OH



SR-107 & Wicker Way Intersection Detail



SR-107 & Airport Road Intersection Detail



Engineer's Opinion of Probable Project Costs

Village of Montpelier, Ohio

WIL-107-9.48 Bike Lane Addition
 PDG Job No. 158500-00021

9/3/2018

Calculated by: TJB

The project includes the addition of bike lanes on Structure WIL-107-0982 as part of ODOT's WIL-107-9.48 project (PID 101346). This work consists of new curb ramps, multi-use path and signal improvements. Pavement markings will be by ODOT.

Item No.	Item	Total Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Total Price
<u>Roadway and Drainage</u>					
202	Curb and Gutter Removed	525	FT	\$8.00	\$4,200
203	Excavation	400	CY	\$20.00	\$8,000
203	Embankment	200	CY	\$20.00	\$4,000
204	Subgrade Compaction	800	SY	\$2.00	\$1,600
304	Aggregate Base (8")	140	CY	\$60.00	\$8,400
407	Non-Tracking Tack Coat	30	GAL	\$10.00	\$300
441	1.25" Asphalt Concrete Surface Course	20	CY	\$300.00	\$6,000
441	1.75" Asphalt Concrete Intermediate Course	30	CY	\$240.00	\$7,200
608	Concrete Walk	1,400	SF	\$6.00	\$8,400
608	Curb Ramp	10	EA	\$500.00	\$5,000
609	Combination Curb and Gutter	250	FT	\$20.00	\$5,000
602	Concrete Headwall	1	EA	\$500.00	\$500
611	15" Conduit	50	FT	\$50.00	\$2,500
611	Curb Inlet	1	EA	\$2,500.00	\$2,500
659	Seeding and Restoration	LUMP	SUM	\$450.00	\$450
<u>Traffic Control</u>					
630	Ground Mounted Support	390	FT	\$9.00	\$3,510
630	Sign, Flat Sheet	240	SF	\$13.00	\$3,120
630	Sign Erected, Flat Sheet	240	SF	\$4.00	\$960
<u>Traffic Signals</u>					
625	Conduit, 2"	160	FT	\$5.00	\$800
625	Conduit, 4"	20	FT	\$12.00	\$240
625	Conduit, Jacked or Drilled, 4"	390	FT	\$35.00	\$13,650
625	Detector Loop	1	EA	\$1,320.00	\$1,320
625	Loop Detector Unit	1	EA	\$300.00	\$300
625	Trench	190	FT	\$6.00	\$1,140
625	Pull Box	7	EA	\$950.00	\$6,650
625	Ground Rod	12	EA	\$180.00	\$2,160
632	Pedestrian Signal Head	12	EA	\$630.00	\$7,560
632	Covering of Pedestrian Signal Head	12	EA	\$20.00	\$240
632	Pedestrian Push Button	12	EA	\$225.00	\$2,700
632	Signal Cable	1,300	FT	\$2.25	\$2,925
632	Pedestal Foundation	12	EA	\$750.00	\$9,000
632	Loop Detector Lead-In Cable	1,450	FT	\$1.50	\$2,175
632	Pedestal, 8', Transformer Base	12	EA	\$625.00	\$7,500
construction subtotal					\$130,000
10% contingency					\$13,000
construction total					\$143,000
topographic survey#					\$1,400
stage two plans					\$8,800
final tracings submission					\$5,800
project total					\$159,000

Topographic survey to be performed only if required. All bidding and construction administration services to be provided by ODOT.

North-South Trail


















Future Park **Current Park** **Place of Interest**

Historic Downtown Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge



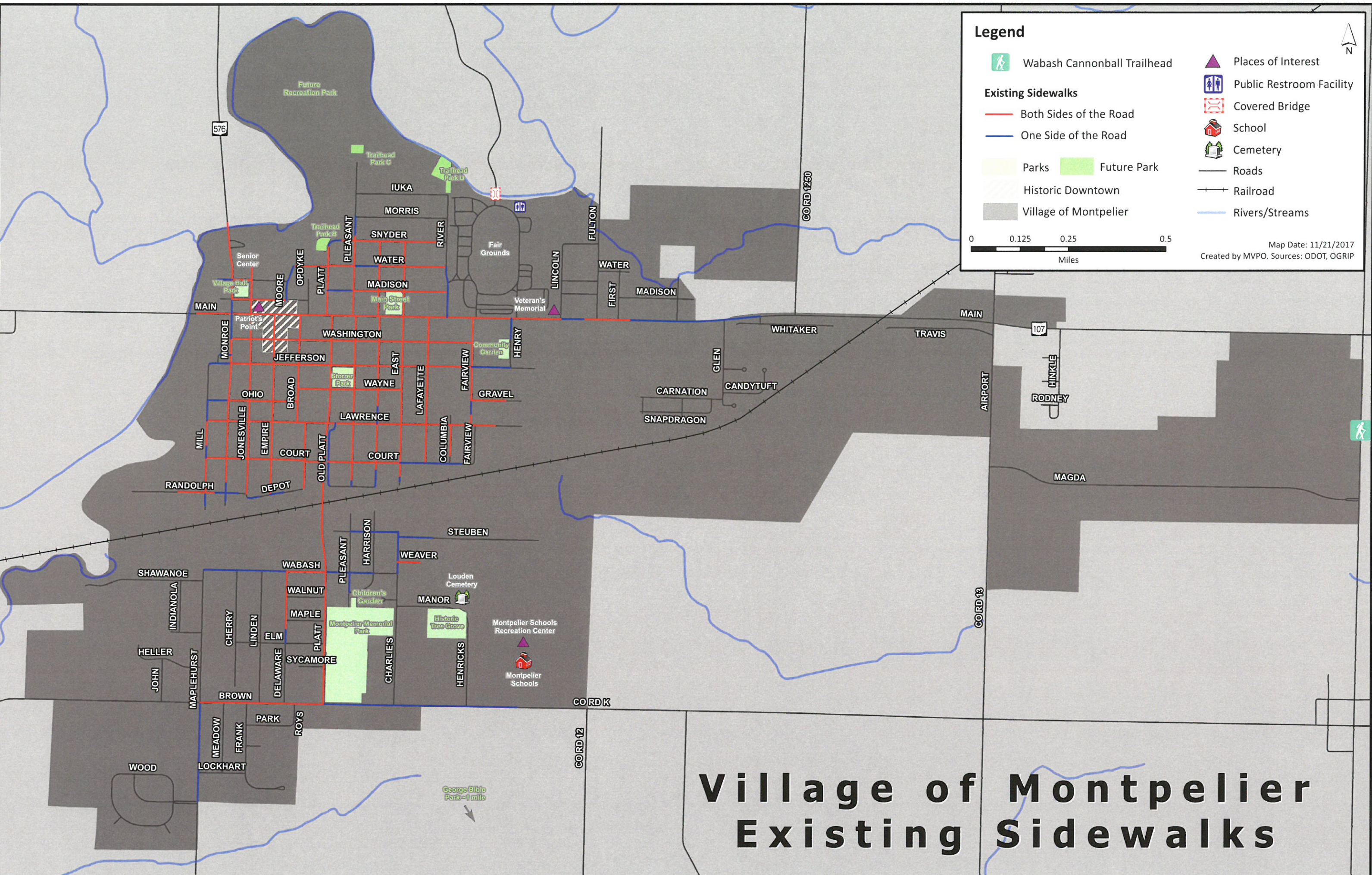
Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Legend

 Wabash Cannonball Trailhead	 Places of Interest
 Both Sides of the Road	 Public Restroom Facility
 One Side of the Road	 Covered Bridge
 Parks	 School
 Future Park	 Cemetery
 Village of Montpelier	 Roads
 Historic Downtown	 Railroad
	 Rivers/Streams

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Miles

Map Date: 11/21/2017
Created by MVPO. Sources: ODOT, OGRIP



Village of Montpelier Existing Sidewalks

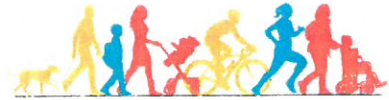
Appendix B Public Participation

Village of Montpelier, Ohio
Active Transportation Plan



Village of Montpelier

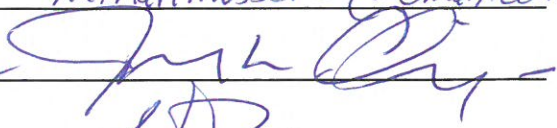
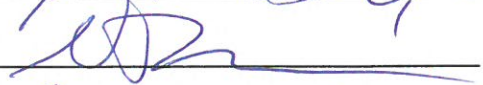
Active Transportation Plan Public Meeting #1



Please sign in below

November 29, 2017

Name	email (optional)
1. <u>KEVIN BROOKS</u>	<u>KBROOKS@MONTPELIEROH.ORG</u>
2. <u>Kelly Hephner</u>	<u>Khephner@montpelieroh.org</u>
3. <u>Becky Semer</u>	<u>becky.semer@montpelieroh.org</u>
4. <u>Christiecher</u>	<u>cstreichere@yahoo.com</u>
5. <u>KEVIN MITTER</u>	<u>mitter.kb@gmail.com</u>
6. <u>TIM BOCK</u>	<u>BOCKT@POGGEMEYER.COM</u>
7. <u>Jim Watkins</u>	
8. <u>Sandy Gordon</u>	<u>psam@montpelieroh.org</u>
9. <u>Angela Hillard</u>	<u>Angela.Hillard84@gmail.com</u>
10. <u>Dan Willis</u>	
11. <u>Nancy Jackson</u>	
12. <u>Chris Kannel</u>	
13. <u>Rich Stoy</u>	
14. <u>Nikki Uribes</u>	
15. <u>Pam Lucas</u>	
16. <u>Tim Lucas</u>	
17. <u>Susan Gray</u>	
18. <u>Arthur Gray</u>	
19. <u>Randy Miller</u>	<u>NORTA</u>

20. Corey Humbarger chumbarger51@gmail.com
21. Terry Humbarger thumbarger@gmail.com
22. Joy Richmond JOYRICHMOND@gmail.com
23. Ryan Richmond
24. Nathan Musser nathanmusser21@gmail.com
25. Jeremy Clinger 
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34. Paulette muller PDG -
35. Tim Boek PDG -
- 36.
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- 42.
- 43.



VILLAGE OF MONTPELIER ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN


Public Meeting #1
November 27, 2017




Let's get ACTIVE!

*How did you get here tonight?
Walk. Ride your bike. Carpool. Drive your own car.
Why?*


Our goal is to develop safe, user-oriented bicycle/pedestrian facilities that build on existing trails, recreation areas, historic and natural sites, neighborhoods, shopping and other regional connections.






What is Active Transportation?

Connects people in convenient, safe & enjoyable ways to... commute (to work, school, shopping), play, and to be healthier while supporting the local economy.





There are many ways to get active whether it's walking to the school bus stop or cycling to work or the store.



Benefits of Active Transportation

- Healthier bodies
 - Reduce risk of heart disease (40%), diabetes (50%) and obesity
- Healthier relationships
 - Increased social interaction, something to "do"
- Healthier communities
 - Increased property values, 88% "pedestrian-friendly" facilities
- Healthier economies
 - Millions per trail in direct consumer spending





What's holding you back?



Trail Terms

Shared Use Path

10-12' wide path totally separate



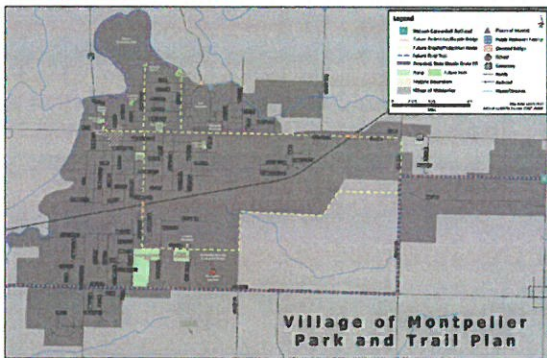
Shoulder style lanes

5' minimum

Shared lane markings/ Sharrows



Proposed route



Proposed phase one



Connections

- Parks
- Schools
- Neighborhoods
- Community centers
- Shopping
- Natural areas
- Larger networks





THINK BIG
BOLD IDEAS




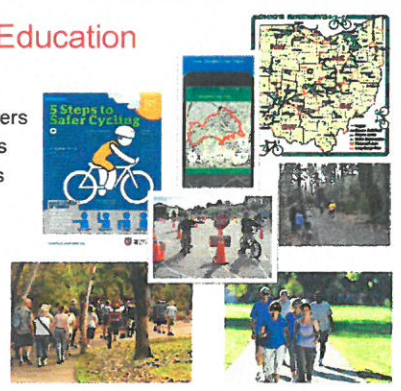
Trail Amenities

- Wayfinding/signage kiosks
- Restroom facilities
- Water fountains
- Places to rest
- Places to exercise
- Places to "fix it"
- Places to launch
- Places to park




Programs/Education

- Maps/app
- Safety classes/fliers
- Organized events
- Educational tours



Let's get moving!



Village of Montpelier Active Transportation Plan

Public Meeting #1

November 28, 2017

35 people signed in at the Public Meeting

After a brief overview of the goals of the Montpelier Active Transportation Plan (To develop safe, user-oriented bicycle/pedestrian facilities that build on existing trails, recreation areas, historic and natural sites, neighborhoods, shopping and other regional connections), benefits of active transportation and trail terms were discussed.

Councilman Chris Kannel discussed the proposed route and the proposed first phase of the bike trail project along the St. Joseph River. The trail will be a variety of trail types – paved shared use path (totally separate), shoulder style lanes and shared lane markings/sharrow as feasible throughout the village. We highlighted potential connections, trail amenities and programs/education/outreach to help get people active. (Powerpoint is attached)

Surveys were also distributed collecting feedback about current trail usage, activities, desired amenities, what would encourage longer trips and information sharing. (Survey results are attached)

Public discussion followed.

Connections:

There is a need for an improved bridge that incorporate bike/pedestrian access or a separate pedestrian bridge on State Route 107/Main Street to accommodate a safe and natural connection into downtown from the existing termination of the Wabash Cannonball Trail at County Road 13. An existing ODOT designated bike route exists, but bypasses the downtown by following Co. Rd. 13 south to Co. Rd. K and turning to the west. While this route does pass by the school and the Municipal Park, it does not connect other community centers of activity including downtown, the county fairgrounds, shopping/dining opportunities, nor the senior center; cultural and historic sites including Main Street Park, Patriots Point Park, segments of the Underground Railroad, Storrer Park, Williams County Veterans Memorial Garden and Building nor the Williams County Historical Society Museum; or the scenic St. Joseph River area that could provide unique opportunities for water recreation.

A second concern, the bridge on Old Platt Street, needs to incorporate pedestrian/bicyclist safety improvements. Grade, guardrail heights, restricted sidewalk width and width of the bridge make it a challenge. As an alternative, a pedestrian/bicycle only bridge may be considered over the railroad connecting Pleasant Street. The addition of this bridge would allow a north-south connection between existing neighborhoods, downtown as well as the planned recreational development along the St. Joseph River to Municipal Park and the School. The School will be contacted to see how many students may take advantage of an enhanced “safe route to school.”

There is a strong desire to develop a network of paved trail along the St. Joe River between the Village Hall/Senior Center and the west side of the County Fairgrounds. The Village of Montpelier already owns

this property. A small, unpaved path had previously been cleared in this area, however it has become overgrown. The development of this area would create new and unique opportunities for recreation, fitness and safe travel within the village. Through comments at the meeting and survey, a trail network in this natural setting with restrooms/water fountains, fitness stations, covered off-trail shelters in this natural setting is well supported. Access to the river for kayak/canoe launch and fishing access is desired. Trailheads would need to be developed to support these activities. The improvement of this area would also allow for the removal of some invasive species of plants and better mosquito control. All aspects of this new trail will be ADA Accessible. Trails will be looped to create various lengths encouraging users of varying fitness levels to utilize this new, natural area.

There was also discussion about developing a portion of this area for motorized recreation as well. Additional investigation, discussion and planning will be needed to determine the feasibility and potential timeline. Motorized and non-motorized recreation cannot share the same trails. (See Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative, <http://www.yamahaoai.com/> - potential grant source; Eleven 18 Motorsports, Mike Goodwin, 419.202.3516 - technical support construction, maintenance and operation)

Amenities:

Good signage, at both trail heads and along the routes, and support programming is necessary to get residents and visitors comfortable on the new trails. Intersecting sections of the trail to be marked to warn trail users of potential interaction with other pedestrians/pets/bicyclists. Mile markers will be important for users who need assistance. Restrooms, water bottle filling stations/drinking fountains, adequate parking and lighting were noted as key in both group discussion and on the follow up survey.

Trashcans with both waste and recycling, dog baggie stations along the route, covered rest areas pulled back from the paved trail, benches and swings overlooking the St. Joseph River were all specifically mentioned during discussion. Fitness stations were noted in the survey, but not specifically mentioned during the public meeting. A small play area would also enhance the new park area to be developed by the St. Joseph River as well as nature identifications markers.

Access to the St. Joseph River was also key to the discussion of amenities. Participants would like to have access to the river for canoeing, kayaking and fishing. There is a canoe livery on the St. Joseph River in Pioneer. We will work with them to identify if they are interested in making their route longer. It is anticipated that some log jams will need to be cleared to allow for easier passage. Investigation of the water will be necessary.

Signage kiosks at trail heads should be clear and include notes about area points of interest including businesses, cultural and historical areas. Several participants also recommended that the maps be accessible on line as well as through apps. "AllTrails" was recommended as an example of an outstanding app.

Programming:

There is a lot of excitement about opportunities to get people not just supporting the development of the trails, but INVOLVED. Programming including special events (5K, 10K), guided interpretive walks, geocaching and similar activities (Williams County ROCKS, Gnome hunting in Frankenmuth) will generate excitement and encourage use of this new trail.

The beautiful natural areas along the St. Joseph River offer some unique opportunities for nature education and interpretive opportunities included the occasional guided tour.

Opportunities for community organizations and businesses to "Adopt-a-Trail" will also be encouraged. Sponsoring entities could sponsor opportunities could range from the installation of benches/fitness stations/signage to assistance with trash removal/litter collection and maintenance activities.

MONTPELIER ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
PUBLIC MEETING NUMBER 2
JANUARY 23 2018

Name:

Email:

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STEVE YAGELSKI	MAYOR
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Rob Bartlett	Rob.Bartlett78@gmail.com
Nikki Uribe	
TERRY Humbarger	thumbarg@gmail.com
Corey Humbarger	
Melissa R Civers	melissa.renee@gmail.com
Austin Fritch	austinfec@gmail.com
Kelly Hephner	kjhephner@gmail.com
Pam Lucas	pamlucas14@gmail.com
Tim Lucas	tplucas@roadrunner.com
Lucas Bechtel	lbechtel@bryantimes.com
Patti Rockey	pattirockey@frontier.com
JASON ROCKEY	
Nichole Rigelman	rigelmann@yahoo.com
Jeanette Hull	jeanette.hull@cktech.biz
Stacy Lillard	stacy.lillard@hotmail.com
Zeb Lillard	zeb@saueholtz-mckarns.com

MONTPELIER ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
PUBLIC MEETING NUMBER 2
JANUARY 23 2018

Name:

Email:

Kurt Loan

KER#076@YAHOO.COM

Helen Esterline

mesterline@roadrunner.com

MIKE ESTERLINE

" " "

Rich Stoy

Robert Lakes

rlakes@bryanschools.net

Nathan Thompson

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Paul Sedford

Ra Nege

Richard W. Shatzer

JASON LUKE

JASON@DISTINCTIVEROOF.COM

70 KEVIN BROOIS

CHRIS KANNEL

VILLAGE COUNCIL

③2) CHERIE STREICHER

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Pauline Mills

PDG

Tim Beck

PDG

VILLAGE OF MONTPELIER ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Public Meeting #2
January 23, 2018



Let's get ACTIVE!

Thank you!

Steering Committee Members:

Kevin Brooks	Chris Kannel	Nate Thompson
Sandy Gordon	Ryan Richmond	Mike Owen
Jim Watkins	Kevin Motter	Nathan Musser
Randy Miller		

Ellen Smith, MVPO

Justin McCaulley and Alex Ehrett, McCaulley Associates

What in this Active Transportation Plan?

Improvements to both existing bicycle/pedestrian routes along with new trails.

What amenities to include

What features to connect

What educational/safety training may be developed

What type of programs will get you out and ACTIVE



Benefits of Active Transportation Plan

Opportunities exist to enhance the economic viability of the area and provide a way for individuals to acquire physical active outdoors.

We are connecting:

- ✓ Active and Passive Parks
- ✓ Other Recreational Trails
- ✓ Neighborhoods
- ✓ Water Recreation
- ✓ Downtown
- ✓ Cultural and Historic Sites
- ✓ Montpelier Schools.



Existing conditions

Wabash Cannonball Trail/State Bike Route 90

- It doesn't come INTO town.
- Need a better trailhead, signage



St. Joseph River Corridor

- Under developed trail
- No water access
- No support facilities

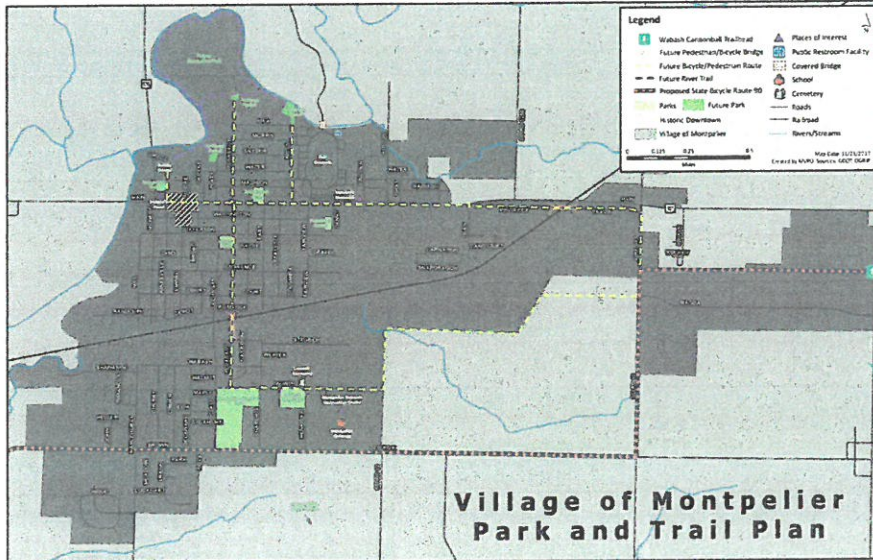


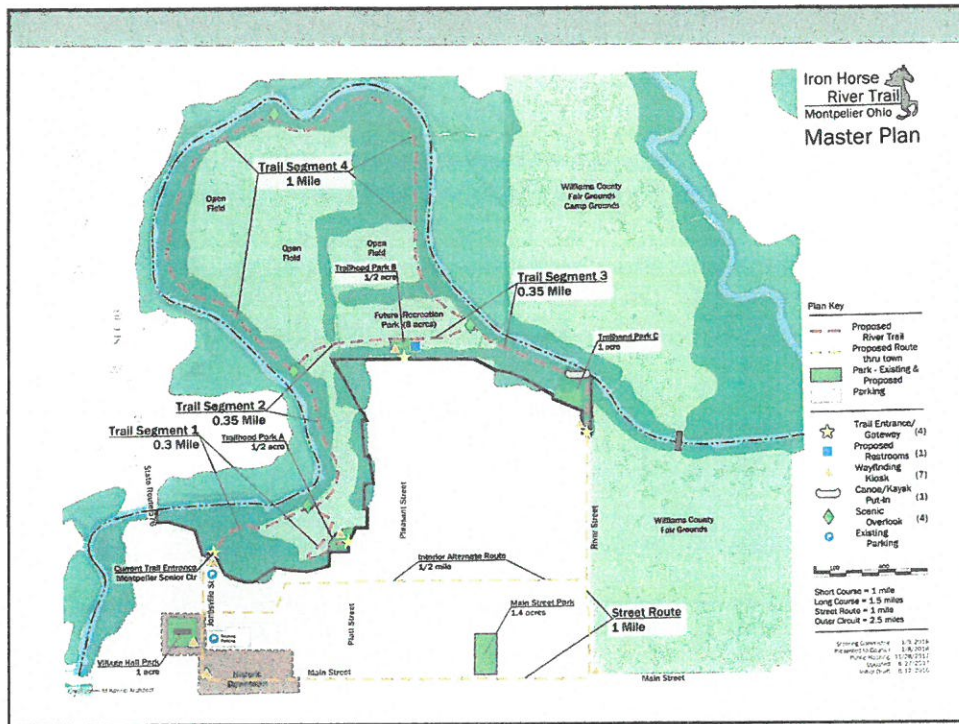
North South Connection

- Railroad tracks limit north-south access
- Old Platt/Pleasant Street



Preferred routes





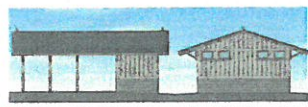
Iron Horse River Trail Features

- 10' wide Paved Trail
- Trailheads
- Restroom Facility
- Kayak/Canoe Launch
- Signage



Furnishings: benches, swings, trash receptacles

- Overlooks
- Fitness stations
- ACTIVITIES



 **POGGEMEYER
DESIGN GROUP**

It Costs WHAT?

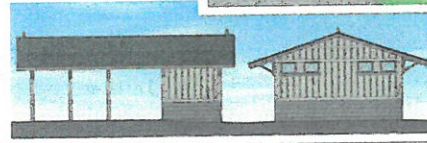
Multiuse Path - \$707,200

Restroom - \$149,500

Kayak/Canoe Launch - \$98,700

Fitness Station - \$80,000+

Furnishings - \$19,500



Funding Sources to Help!

Village of Montpelier Parks & Recreation Fund

Capital Budget line item

ODOT Transportation Alternatives Program

ODNR Clean Ohio Trails Fund

ODNR Recreational Trails Fund

ODNR NatureWorks

Private Foundations, limited

Local Fundraisers/Sponsorships

Special thank you to McCaulley & Associates
for preparing TAP and COTF



Ready, Set, GO!

- Strategically pursue Infrastructure Projects
- Review and Evaluate Existing Infrastructure
- Grow Public Awareness and Bicycle Safety
- Update the Plan Annually
- Collaborate with ODOT
- Document Success
- Establish Measures of Effectiveness



Stay tuned for progress updates.

Thank you



Village of Montpelier Active Transportation Plan

Public Meeting #2

January 23, 2018

34 people signed in at the Public Meeting

After a brief Welcome by the mayor, the meeting was officially called to order because 4 council people were in attendance.

We started by thanking the members of the Steering Committee for their work and dedication and provided an overview of the DRAFT Montpelier Active Transportation Plan. The plan reflects the results of survey and community feedback into the development of a network of trails within the village and connecting to State Bicycle Route 90/Wabash Cannonball Trail. Existing conditions of the proposed routes were reviewed. The Iron Horse River Trail (the new trail along the St. Joseph River connecting the senior center to the fairgrounds) was identified as the top priority. Development plans, associated costs and potential funding sources for that trail were discussed. Thanks was given to McCaulley Associates for preparing both the Clean Ohio Trails Fund and Transportation Alternative Program applications in an effort to move this project forward. It was also noted that discussions with the Williams County Commissioners and Sen. Rob McColley had already taken place to raise awareness and potentially secure funding.

Public comments and discussion was encouraged.

- General excitement about the Iron Horse River Trail with many positive comments.
- Discussed ways service groups may be solicited to get involved creating new volunteer opportunities within the community.
- Some lightly developed running paths may be cut into the 74 acre area to encourage people who like true trail running to utilize the park.
- Clarified that an area of boardwalk will be constructed on areas of the trail that may have the highest flooding experience allowing for greater access.
- The village plans to plow the trail in the winter and will utilize the trail for mosquito control treatments.
- Lighting along the trail was also discussed to increase accessibility during winter months. Fixture selection will be sensitive to creating light pollution. Also as part of lighting, it was discussed to have a walk-thru Christmas Light display on the trail.
- There were concerns from one property owner that they will lose privacy with the development of this trail. Extra landscaping measures may be taken to enhance privacy.
- It was also suggested, once the plan is complete, we approach the Williams County Fair Board, another adjacent property owner, to see if shared facilities could be developed.
- Tremendous excitement about the addition of a canoe/kayak launch. Concerns about debris in the river, but it was noted that many property owners are assessed on property taxes a fee for cleaning of the river/St. Joe watershed. This will be explored further.

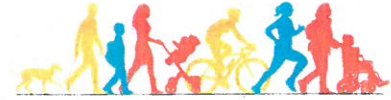
- Opportunity to reinstitute the canoe races that used to be on the river and business opportunities for livery services.
- Richard Shatzer, local ODOT representative, attended and discussed the plans for the renovation of the bridge on 107. Improvements are slated to bid in 2019. Sidewalks will be eliminated, but with coordination, ODOT would consider including pavement markings for a bike lane. The investment ODOT is making in this phase of the trail development may be leveraged for future grant applications.
- Several additional public testimonials of support were made.

Mayor Yagelski shared his excitement for the project and read the inscription from the monument at the Historic Grove.

Meeting adjourned.

Village of Montpelier

General Active Transportation Survey



31 participants completed the survey at the November 28, 2017, public meeting.

An additional 18 surveys were completed at the January 23, 2018, public meeting.

Total Respondents: 49

1. The **Gender** of respondents was nearly even: Male - **27** Female - **22**

2. **Age** ranges clustered between 36-65 years of age. We had both youth and senior participants at the meeting.
 - 15 & under - **3**
 - 16-25 - **0**
 - 26-35 - **8**
 - 36-45 - **12**
 - 46-55 - **8**
 - 56-65 - **13**
 - 66 & older - **4**

3. Generally, **how often do you use trails/bike routes:**
 - NEVER used before - **4**
 - Once a year - **7**
 - A few times per year - **23**
 - Once a month - **1**
 - A couple times per month - **3**
 - Once a week - **8**
 - 2 Comments: Seasonally, (Jan thru May in Florida)
 - Would use more if available

4. **Activities enjoyed on trails** by respondents included:
 - Walking/Hiking - **42**
 - Biking - **20**
 - Pet-Walking - **18**
 - Jogging/Running - **10**
 - Other: Geocaching - **2**
 - Kayaking - **1**
 - Playing games - **2**
 - Special events (walks/races) - **2**
 - Nature walks with grandchildren - **1**
 - Nature photography - **2**

5. Respondents considered Recreation (**30**) and Health & Fitness (**27**) as their primary trail uses. Training (**2**), Commuting (**1**) and Mental Health (**1**) were also noted.

6. The miles traveled (or anticipated travel) per visit varied:

- 1 mile or less - 5
- 2 miles - 16
- 3 miles - 6
- 4 miles - 8
- 4-10 miles - 8
- 10-25 miles - 2

7. Average hours spent on a single trail visit was predominately between 1 and 2 hours.

- 30 minutes – 3
- 1 hour – 17
- 2 hours – 19
- 3 hours or more – 3

8. What would encourage you to make longer trips? (Respondents were encouraged to select all that apply and include their own comments)

- River/ Water recreations – 24
- Hiking – 21
- Events – 20
- Shopping/restaurants – 13
- Sight Seeing Tours - 13
- Museums/Cultural sites – 12
- Mountain Biking – 7
- Motorized Recreation Opportunities - 3
- Comments: Races (5K, 10K, etc.) – 2
- Fishing - 1
- Opportunity to observe nature/peach & quite – 1
- Being in better shape - 1

9. What services and amenities are you looking for during your trips? (Respondents were encouraged to select all that apply and include their own comments)

The majority of all respondents (**35**) requested Public Restrooms/water fountains.

Other amenities/services requested included:

- Water recreation/access - 20
- Restaurant/Café - 16
- Tavern/Bar/Brewery – 17
- Fitness Stations – 13
- Retail/Gift Shop – 8
- Lodging/camping – 2
- Convenience store/grocery – 4
- Fishing access – 1
- Emergency call boxes - 1

10. Of those responding, **16** are MORE likely to patronize a business or attraction that has bike racks/storage available, while **17** are not.

11. People like to learn about business/attractions a variety of ways. When asked to respond to, “How do you typically find out – or would PREFER to find out - about businesses or attractions in towns that you are visiting on your trip?” responses were wide ranging.

Internet & Social Media - **33**

Google Maps (or other online map provider) - **17**

Newspaper - **7**

Local Trail Guide - **16**

Local Bike Shop - **4**

Travel Apps (TripAdvisor/Yelp/Other) - **10**

Word of Mouth - **22**

Business Storefront/Signage - **7**

Visitor/Welcome Center - **18**

Trail Side Kiosk/Information Board - **20**

Other: Chamber of Commerce - **2**

12. Others comments added to the surveys include:

The desire for geocaching opportunities – 3 comments

Always enjoyed the river, hope this comes to be - 1

Actively promoting the North Country Trail – 2 comments

The need for expanded safe routes to schools for walking/bicycling – 2 comments

The desire to use trails more frequently if they were available and well signed – 5 comments

Why are two entrances proposed to the Iron Horse River Trail – 1

Need to keep Main Street Park cleaner – 1

Put restrooms on fairground property or near senior center rather than central location – 1

Village of Montpelier

General Active Transportation Survey



With the boom in trail building across the United States, the Village of Montpelier would like to gauge what new and current trail users are looking for while using these attractions.

Please circle your response or complete the statement.

1. Gender: a. Male b. Female

2. Age:
a. 15 & under b. 16-25 c. 26-35 d. 36-45
e. 46-55 f. 56-65 g. 66 & older

3. Generally, how often do you use trails/bike routes:
a. NEVER used before b. Once a year c. A few times per year
d. Once a month e. A couple times per month f. Once a week

4. What activities do you do on trails? (select all that apply)
a. Walking/Hiking b. Biking c. Jogging/Running
d. Pet-Walking e. Other: _____

5. What would you consider your main use of trails?
a. Recreation b. Health & Fitness
c. Commuting d. Training

6. Average number of miles traveled on trail per visit: _____ (anticipated)

7. Average number of hours spent on trail per visit: _____ (anticipated)

8. What would encourage you to make longer trips? (select all that apply)

- a. Museums/Cultural Sites
- b. River/Water Recreations
- c. Events
- d. Mountain biking
- e. Motorized Recreation Opportunities
- f. Hiking
- g. Shopping/Restaurants
- h. Site Seeing Tours
- i. Other: _____

9. What types of services and amenities are you looking for during your trips? (select all that apply)

- a. Restaurant/Café
- b. Tavern/Bar/Brewery
- c. Bike Shop
- d. Retail/Gift Shop
- e. Convenience Store/Grocery
- f. Lodging/Camping
- g. Public Restroom/Water
- h. Water Access
- i. Fitness Stations
- j. Other: _____

10. Are you more likely to patron a business or attraction that has bike racks/storage available?

- a. Yes
- b. No

11. How do you typically find out – or would PREFER to find out - about businesses or attractions in towns that you are visiting on your trip? (Select all that apply)

- a. Internet & Social Media
- b. Google Maps (or other online map provider)
- c. Newspaper
- d. Local Trail Guide
- e. local Bike Shop
- f. Travel Apps (TripAdvisor/Yelp/Other)
- g. Word of Mouth
- h. Business Storefront/Signage
- i. Visitor/Welcome Center
- j. Trail Side Kiosk/Information Board
- k. Other: _____

Others comments:

Thank you for your time to complete this survey.

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Meeting: Montpelier Active Transportation Plan Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: October 31, 2017

Name	Organization
1.) Ellen Smith	MUPD
2.) KEVIN MOTTER	AMERICAN LEGION/VFW
3.) Sandy Gordon	Montpelier Parks + Rec
4.) KEVIN BROOKS	MONTPELIER
5.) TIM BOCK	POGGEMEYER DESIGN GROUP
6.) Jim Watkins	Health Department
7.) Paulette Mills	Poggemeyer.
8.) TOM Striggow	Northwest Ohio RAILS TO TRAILS (NORTH)
9.) Nathan Masser	
10.) Nathan Thompson	Village Council
11.) Mike Owen	
12.) Ryan Richmond	Richmond Machine Co.
13.) Chris Kannel	VOM
14.)	
15.)	
16.)	
17.)	
18.)	
19.)	
20.)	

STEERING COMMITTEE
#2 SIGN IN PLEASE

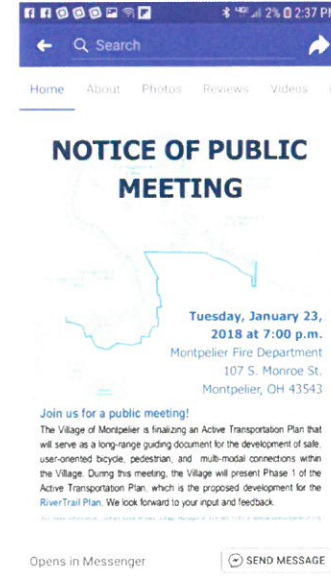
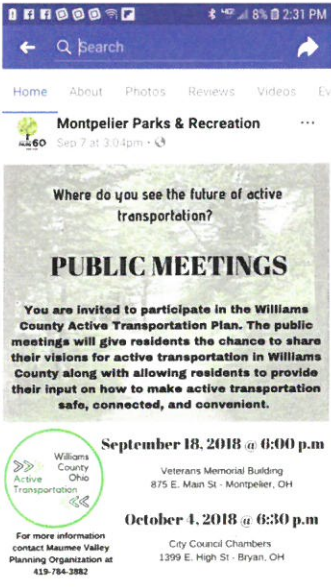
MINUTE BOOK #11
JAN. 9, 2018.

1. Steve Yagelski
2. Kelly Hephner
3. Dail Ritsch
4. ~~_____~~
5. ~~_____~~
6. ~~_____~~
7. Alex Emmett
8. Justin R. McCaulley
9. Emma Kimpatrik
10. Ellen Smith
11. Chris Kannel
12. ~~_____~~
13. Sandy Gardon
14. Tim Bocic
15. Mike Owen
16. Ryan Richmond
17. _____
18. _____
62. _____
63. _____
64. _____
65. _____
66. _____
67. _____

Appendix C
Media Coverage
Village of Montpelier, Ohio
Active Transportation Plan



Social media posts by Montpelier Parks and Recreation



ODNR grants may help with trail project

By **NANCY JACKSON**
news@bryantimes.com

MONTPELIER — The village of Montpelier is getting closer to finding grants for the improvement of the walking trails on the north edge of town.

Members of the village council were updated Monday by McCaulley and Associates, a consulting firm that has been hired by the village to locate available state and federal funding for improvements, which town officials say will help the village attract visitors and businesses. The representatives explained there are funds available through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to improve the existing trail, which runs from the northwest edge of town to the fairgrounds.

"This will be Phase 1," explained Kevin Brooks, village manager. "As we go forward, we will work out continuing phases.

The funds come with conditions, one of which is that the trail be accessible for biking, hiking and motorized vehicles, such as snowmobiles. To that end, council members approved Brooks to enter into a \$14,000 contract with Poggemeyer Design for engineering services to develop an "Active Transportation Plan" for the trails.

Plans for the trail must be submitted to ODNR by February 2018.

"This first phase will probably cost around \$750,000 to \$800,000 and we're planning on layering village, state and federal

funds," Brooks said.

Grant money can also be used to create flyers highlighting the trails which could be posted at rest stops along the Ohio Turnpike.

McCaulley representatives told members there may be money through ODNR's NatureWorks program for a splash pad, which members are considering to replace the pool, though the pool will remain open through at least 2018.

Members also heard from Craig Bard, associate pastor for the House of Prayer; Beniah Harris, pastor for the House of Prayer; and Craig Peffley, who runs the church's food pantry, about the community garden, located on village-owned empty lots on Henry Street.

Council member Cheri Streicher said she had been "a little disappointed" by the results of this year's garden.

The church representatives said four raised beds had been planted this year, and more people had contacted them about next year, when they would like to expand the number of raised beds to 10.

Council member Laura Gray said she would like to see an area plowed and perhaps sweet corn planted. She said she had planted at a vacant lot years ago in conjunction with a Boy Scout troop and it had been financially successful. Excess produce is donated to the food pantry and, in 2018, may also go toward a local farmers market.

Church members and



"This first phase will probably cost around \$750,000 to \$800,000 and we're planning on layering village, state and federal funds."

Kevin Brooks
Montpelier village manager

council agreed the first year was a trial run and that perhaps some youth groups or senior citizens could be involved next year.

Two change orders for the wastewater treatment plant improvement project were also approved Monday. The first was for an increase of \$64,177 to cover items not included on the original bid; the second was for \$64,312 for the demolition of an outdated digester.

A change order for \$14,604 for the Phase V sewer separation project was also approved, to cover manholes and water issues that were not foreseen.

Members also approved a list of auction items for the Nov. 9 auction. The auction will be held at the "boneyard" near the See and Do store.

Members then approved an amendment to the residential electric services, allowing the village to reimburse residents who have their electric wires switched from aerial service to underground service. The electric company will move the wires, but the residents will then arrange to have the hook-up to their house installed by a private contractor.

Members also heard from Kelly Hephner, village

director of finances, who said the state is changing how businesses can file income tax returns. The state will collect and distribute the taxes, taking a percentage, and the village will not be able to see the returns. Hephner said the information she has received so far has been conflicting and incomplete, but she will have more information prepared by the Oct. 24 council meeting. She said several municipalities are considering banding together to sue the state.

She then read the income tax report, showing \$1,388,782.33 collected through the month of September, compared to \$1,682,767 through September 2016.

Also approved were Nathan Thompson, Chris Kannel and Cheri Streicher to the economic development strategy committee; a write-off of \$830.09 of noncollectable utility bills; and the first reading of revising job descriptions and compensation and allowance changes for hourly and supervisory employees.

Members then met in closed, executive session to discuss the employment and compensation of employees with no action taken upon return to open session.

Montpelier looking to become destination village

By NANCY JACKSON news@bryantimes.com | Posted: Thursday, December 7, 2017 12:00 am

The Village of Montpelier is actively trying to become a destination town — both for tourists and those looking to settle in Williams County.

One of the ways it is working toward this goal is partnering with Paulette Mills of Poggemeyer Design and Ellen Smith of Maumee Valley Planning Commission.

Mills, Smith, Village Manager Keven Brooks, Mayor Steve Yagelski and Chris Kannel, council member and member of the economic development team, recently spoke about how their plans to improve and lengthen existing trails north of town and a residential tax abatement plan for the entire village will combine to make Montpelier attractive to those looking for a place to settle.

The village hosted a public meeting at the Montpelier fire hall to get public input for what’s being called an “Active Transportation Plan.”

Smith noted that “Having a transportation plan in place will make Montpelier more competitive when it comes to applying for grants. Maumee Valley helps the village with the grant writing process.”

Mills said the goal is to connect people and get them out in nature and moving.

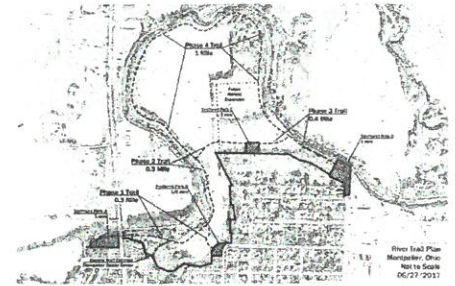
Yagelski concurred, saying, “This will help families get out and do something together, and it will give the schools a place to take the students. A lot of them just aren’t exposed to nature — and it’s good exercise.”

Brooks added, “We are a team — Mills and Smith are the artists. We (the administration) have an idea of what we want painted; They help us make it a reality.

“The big takeaway is we have a plan in place. For years we’ve hoped things would happen, but they haven’t, so now we have some concrete ideas and we’re moving forward.

“Not everything we try will work, but we’re moving in the right direction,” Brooks said.

Kannel agreed, saying “What we’re trying to do is get some projects out there and build enthusiasm and positive prospective. We’re open to all comers.”



Trail map

Pictured is a map of a proposed trail system the Village of Montpelier is working to develop. Courtesy graphic

FREE EVENT
Purdue Univ.
musical troupe
coming to Bryan
LOCAL, A3



PULLED AWAY LATE

Hicksville girls use second-half surge to beat Montpelier
SPORTS, B1

TRAGEDY

Two killed, suspect apprehended in school shooting
NATION, A9

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021018 30 4327
VILLAGE OF MONTPELIER
211 N JONESVILLE ST
MONTPELIER OH 43843-0148

THE BRYAN TIMES

A FAMILY-OWNED NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WILLIAMS COUNTY SINCE 1949
HONESTY AND INTEGRITY IN JOURNALISM

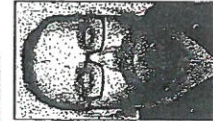
VOL. 70, NO. 16

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2018

\$1

Traffic stop turns into manhunt

By LYNN THOMPSON
lthompson@bryantimes.com



Joshua E. Yates

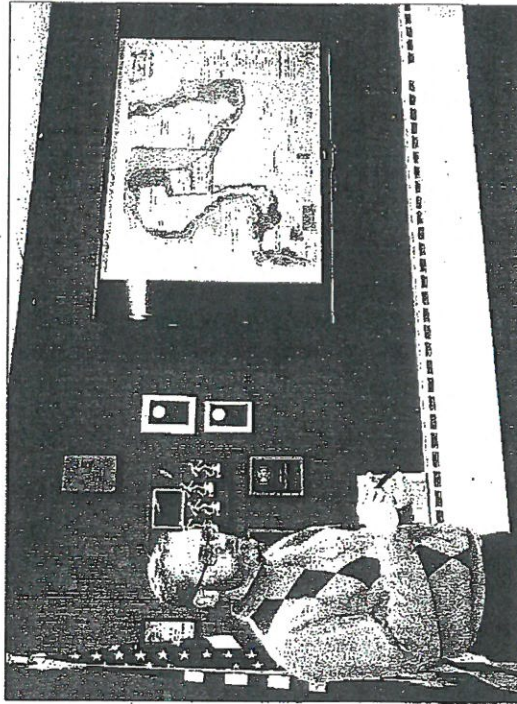
What began as a multi-jurisdictional manhunt that went throughout the early morning hours on Tuesday ended in an arrest Tuesday afternoon in Bryan.

The Williams Sheriff's Office issued a countywide BOLO (Be On the Look Out) alert for Joshua E. Yates Tuesday morning. The incident began when Yates, 27, whose last known address was on County Road 17 just east of Bryan, fled from a traffic stop in Defiance County. He has one warrant from Defiance Municipal Court charging him with child endangerment and two others from Bryan Municipal Court charging him with drug possession.

Yates' criminal history includes arrests on charges of drug possession, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and numerous minor offenses.

"One of our deputies made a traffic stop (at 12:59 a.m. south of Edgerton)," Defiance County Sheriff Douglas Engel said in a phone interview with The Times Tuesday morning. "Yates fled as

Trail plan developing



Chris Kannei, a Montpelier Village Councilman and a member of the trail committee, speaks at a public meeting about village's biking/pedestrian trail project, Tuesday evening at the village fire station. LUCAS BECHTOL/Staff

new ones.
"We really believe that opportunities exist to enhance the economic viability of the town and also provide a way for individuals to get physical activity when you may not have a gym or a gym membership handy," Poulette Mills, client relations representative for Poggenmeyer Design

Group, said at a public meeting Tuesday evening at the village fire station.
The overall plan is to connect several different parks, the downtown, the neighborhoods, schools and cultural and historic sites throughout Montpelier, she added.

See TRAIL on Page A2

Portman says: CR productive

By DON KORALEWSKI
dkoralew@bryantimes.com



U.S. Sen. Rob Portman

The federal government shutdown that took place over the weekend and into Monday was "really bad policy," according to Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH).

Speaking to Ohio media on Tuesday afternoon, Portman said, "I'm just really pleased that after three days of a senseless shutdown finally enough of my Democratic colleagues have joined to reopen the federal government."

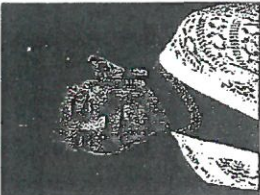
"I think shutdowns are unnecessary. And, by the way, in my research of this, they always end up costing more taxpayer dollars at the end. So, it's really bad policy. And the last few days are just proof of that. I mean what was accomplished?"

While Portman isn't pleased with the time the nation's government was down he said he is pleased with elements of the

See PORTMAN on Page A3

OBITUARIES

Anita J. Eicher
(1946 - 2018)

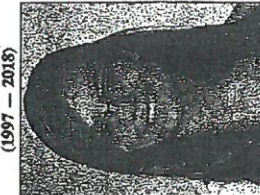


Anita J. Eicher, 71, of Al- verton, Ohio, passed away Monday, Jan. 22, 2018, in her home, surrounded by her family. She was born in Indianopolis, Indiana, on Aug. 25, 1946 to Richard B. and Mildred M. (Schaffner) Faulhaber. She lived and worked on her parents' farm and graduated from Edon High School in 1964. On Dec. 12, 1965 she married Donald L. Eicher in Edon, Ohio; He survives.

She was an eight-year member of the 4-H Spic and Span club and attended Camp Palmer as both a camper and later as a counselor. She worked for 35 1/2 years for Newcomer, Shafter, Spangler and Breibinger in the real estate title department. She was the co-chairman of the original Williams Co. Diabetic Club and attended the current Williams Co. Support Group. She worked as a Board of Elections poll worker and was a member of a bowling team for years. She was also a member of the Nite Owl's Camping Club for 45 years.

She enjoyed life every day with off-the-wall humor and puns. She loved chatting with all sorts of people with a goal of making them smile. She loved making all different types of crafts, reading, baking and decorating wedding cakes and -sugar cookies. She loved working in the kitchen and cooking for

Andreeya Maria
Grzegorzewski
(1997 - 2018)

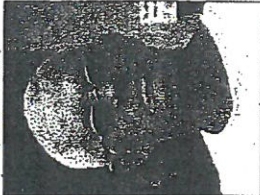


We celebrate the life of Andreeya Maria Grzegorzewski, who left this earth on Jan. 19, 2018, surrounded by family and friends. Andreeya's life journey began on March 29, 1997 when her parents, Terry and Teresa (Wisniewski) Grzegorzewski, gave birth to the most amazing human being in the world. Their unconditional love for their daughter is obvious to all who know them.

Andreeya was a beloved student of many teachers and professors at Bryan City Schools and Ohio Northern University. She majored in computer science at ONU. She was proud to hold a 4.0 GPA, and blessed the world with her love of music. Andreeya was an accomplished pianist and an amazing percussionist. She traveled far and near to share her musical gifts and made many friends along the way. Andreeya had the opportunity to play in a 43-day national tour, traveling to various states and playing in numerous venues. She worked hard at everything that she put her mind to and was passionate about achieving her goals, whether they be academic or musical.

Andreeya will be missed beyond words by her parents, as well as her special friend, Jaired Birkx of Uniopolis, Ohio, who wanted to spend his life with her. She was his

Joseph Baldwin
(1954 - 2018)



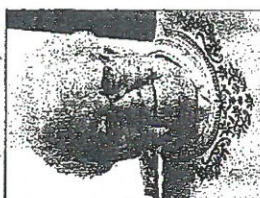
Joseph Baldwin, 63, West Unity, Ohio (formerly Peru, Indiana), passed away early Friday, Jan. 19, 2018 as the result of an automobile accident. He was born Dec. 31, 1954 in Miami County, Indiana, to Jack and Mae Baldwin. He was married to Peg Baldwin. She survives in West Unity, Ohio.

Other survivors include his parents, Jack and Mae Baldwin, Peru, Indiana; brothers, Dan Baldwin, Richard Baldwin and Charles Baldwin; children, Joseph II, Joshua, Jamie, Matthew and Tara; four stepchildren; and 17 grandchildren. Joseph was predeceased in death by his brother, Martin.

Joseph was a 1973 graduate of Peru High School. He was retired from the railroad and enjoyed spending his free time fishing, playing pool and hunting. He also treasured spending time with his children and grandchildren. Joseph will forever be remembered as loving, hard-working and oneey.

The family of Joseph Baldwin would like to extend an invitation for a celebration of life from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018 at the First Church of Christ, Peru, Indiana. At 6:30 p.m., a brief memorial service will be held to conclude the evening. Funeral arrangements are pending in West Unity, Ohio.

Marie J. Trausch
(1923 - 2018)



Marie J. Trausch, age 94, of Montpelier, Ohio, died at 8:25 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 22, 2018, at Hillside Country Living near Bryan, Ohio, where she was a resident. A longtime resident of Edon and Montpelier, Mrs. Trausch was employed as a cook at the hospital in Montpelier, retiring in 2007 with 30 years of service, and was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Montpelier. She enjoyed cross stitch, word search and making pies, being known for her pie crusts. Marie was a devoted farm wife and a loving mom and grandmother.

Marie J. Trausch was born on June 13, 1923, in Stryker, Ohio, the daughter of Orville J. and Grace E. (Cramer) Trausch. She married Lester Trausch on Oct. 25, 1944, in Blakeslee, Ohio, and he predeceased her in death on Sept. 16, 1984.

Survivors include her children, Rose Mary (Fred) Lemke of Lupoon, Michigan, Kenneth (Clandia) Trausch of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Darlene Gonzales of Bryan, Jenice (Joe) Romeo of Tucson, Arizona, and Karen (Steve) Gordon of Pinckney, North Carolina; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; 16 great-great-grandchildren; and one brother, Ralph Cramer of Montpelier. She was predeceased in death by her

Trail

(Continued from Page A1)

The initial focus of the plan would be what they are calling the Iron Horse River Trail, said Chris Kane, a Montpelier village councilman and member of the trail committee.

"Those of us who grew up in Montpelier sometime in the last 40 years or so will probably refer to it as the Moose Trail," he said. "It starts at the Montpelier Senior Center, which is the former Moose Lodge."

From there, it enters into village-owned property — around 75 acres including flood plains and open fields — the village rents out — and runs along the St. Joseph River until it reaches River Street on the north gate of the Williams County Fairgrounds. The trail will be just under 2 miles in length. While it is currently a rough trail with hills, Kane said there are plans to make it more accessible.

"The first objective is to allow the community to connect to the river in an accessible way with multi-use trails that are ADA (Americans with Disability Act) accessible so someone in a wheelchair or scooter can get onto this trail," he said.

The second objective is to utilize the river to attract people to Montpelier, Kane added.

The committee is working on several different ideas for amenities

throughout the park, including a restroom, a possible canoe and kayak launch and even a fitness area.

"It's outdoors, there's no membership fee, it can be accessible by anybody," Mills said. "They're typically designed so the exercises can be modified for different levels of fitness. I think that's a really, really nice feature."

However, all of that comes with a cost.

The 10-foot-wide asphalt path alone will cost approximately \$734,000, with the restrooms coming in at around \$139,650.

Furnishings such as signs and benches, will be around \$98,000 and the fitness stations will cost around \$80,000.

Mills said there are many ways to fund this trail, including receiving money directly from the state through Sen. Rob McColley, with whom the committee has already discussed the trail. The village has its own parks and recreation funds it could use and several grants are available through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio Department of Transportation.

The plan is still in the draft phase, but officials are already working on applying for grants, Kane said the first step in the first application process has a deadline in early February.

ON THE AGENDA

11:30 a.m. lunch at Stryker Senior Center.
* The Defiance County Commissioners will meet in regular session from 8:30 a.m. until noon, Thursday at 500 Court St., Suite A, in Defiance. Listed on the agenda are: 9 a.m. general session; 10 a.m. eco-

Edgerton Village Council will meet in special, executive session at 7 p.m. today in council chambers at 324 N. Michigan Ave.
* The Williams County Commissioners will meet in regular session from 8:30 a.m.-noon and

Trail plan developing



Chris Kannel, a Montpelier Village Councilman and a member of the trail committee, speaks at a public meeting about village's biking/pedestrian trail project, Tuesday evening at the village fire station. LUCAS BECHTOL/Staff

By LUCAS BECHTOL
lbechtol@bryantimes.com

MONTPELIER — Montpelier is close to finishing planning on a walking and biking trail along the St. Joseph River.

The trail is part of the Active Transportation Plan that will improve existing bike/pedestrian trails in Montpelier as well as

new ones.

"We really believe that opportunities exist to enhance the economic viability of the town and also provide a way for individuals to get physical activity when you may not have a gym or a gym membership handy," Paulette Mills, client relations representative for Poggemeyer Design

Group, said at a public meeting Tuesday evening at the village fire station.

The overall plan is to connect several different parks, the downtown, the neighborhoods, schools and cultural and historic sites throughout Montpelier, she added.

See **TRAIL** on Page A2

(Continued from Page A1)

The initial focus of the plan would be what they are calling the Iron Horse River Trail, said Chris Kannel, a Montpelier village councilman and member of the trail committee.

"Those of us who grew up in Montpelier sometime in the last 40 years or so will probably refer to it as the Moose Trail," he said. "It starts at the Montpelier Senior Center, which is the former Moose Lodge."

From there, it enters into village-owned property — around 75 acres including flood plains and open fields the village rents out — and runs along the St. Joseph River until it reaches River Street on the north gate of the Williams County Fairgrounds. The trail will be just under 2 miles in length.

While it is currently a rough trail with hills, Kannel said there are plans to make it more accessible.

"The first objective is to allow the community to connect to the river in an accessible way with multiple points and that is ADA (Americans with Disability Act) accessible so someone in a wheelchair or a scooter can get onto this trail," he said.

The second objective is to utilize the river to attract people to Montpelier, Kannel added.

The committee is working on several different ideas for amenities

throughout the park, including a restroom, a possible canoe and kayak launch and even a fitness area.

"It's outdoors, there's no membership fee, it can be accessible by anybody," Mills said. "They're typically designed so the exercises can be modified for different levels of fitness. I think that's a really, really nice feature."

However, all of that comes with a cost.

The 10-foot-wide asphalt path alone will cost approximately \$734,000, with the restrooms coming in at around \$139,650.

Furnishings, such as signs and benches, will be nearly \$20,000, the launch around \$98,000 and the fitness stations will cost around \$80,000.

Mills said there are many ways to fund this trail, including receiving money directly from the state through Sen. Rob McColley, with whom the committee has already discussed the trail. The village has its own parks and recreation funds it could use and several grants are available through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio Department of Transportation.

The plan is still in the draft phase, but officials are already working on applying for grants. Kannel said the first step in the first application process has a deadline in early February.

THE BRYAN TIMES

Montpelier receives public health champion award

By [TIMES STAFF](#)

Apr 7, 2018

https://www.bryantimes.com/news/local/montpelier-receives-public-health-champion-award/article_990809fe-87aa-5b27-9657-eede90fde55e.html



The Williams County Health Department has recognized the Village of Montpelier with the 2018 Public Health Champion Award. The presentation was made Tuesday at Montpelier Village Hall. From left are Megan Riley, director of community health with the Williams County Health Department; Nikki Uribes, finance director of the Village of Montpelier; Kevin Brooks, Montpelier village manager; and Jim Watkins, Williams County health commissioner. JOSH EWERS/Staff

The Williams County Health Department has recognized the Village of Montpelier with the 2018 Public Health Champion Award. The presentation was made April 3 at Montpelier Village Hall.

April 2-8 is recognized as National Public Health Week. Annually, during this week, the county health department recognizes one outstanding champion to emphasize the importance of collaboration for the success of public health in Williams County. The award is given to an individual or organization that has demonstrated a high level of commitment to improving the health of the community.

Over the past year, the Village of Montpelier has sought out opportunities to improve the health of local residents. Some efforts worth noting include:

- Water safety health education for children through Montpelier Parks and Recreation
- Increased access to healthy food (summer food program and community garden)
- Increased connectivity through walking paths, trails and sidewalks
- Housing improvement strategies
- Advocacy for health equity in Williams County
- Emergency preparedness efforts

Additionally, the Village of Montpelier has been involved in the Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Planning process as a new and active participant of Williams County Partners for Health, according to county Health Commissioner Jim Watkins.

“The Williams County Health Department is pleased to recognize the Village of Montpelier on efforts to improve the health and quality of life for local residents and look forward to future opportunities to work collaboratively,” Watkins said.

https://www.bryantimes.com/news/local/montpelier-trail-gaining-local-support/article_19366bb7-fca4-53d0-bbc6-ccb6f25ded8e.html

FEATURED

Montpelier trail gaining local support

By Lucas Bechtol leaderenterprise@frontier.com Jan 31, 2018

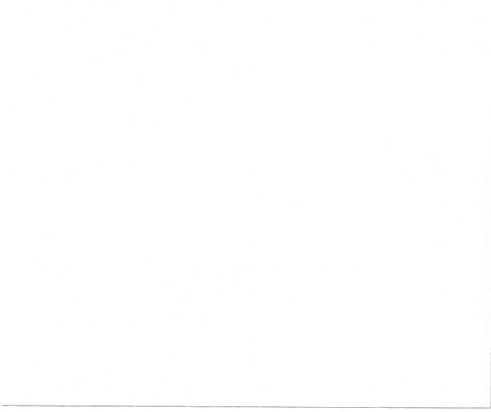


Pictured is the map of a proposed trail along the St. Joseph River that is gaining support throughout the county. Courtesy Photo

Plans for a walking and biking trail in Montpelier haven't been finalized, yet, but have already garnered much community support.

Jeanette Hull, president of the Bean Days Balloon Festival, came to a public meeting on the trail last week to publicly endorse the idea, recalling a meeting several years ago concerning the festival.

"Our theme of that year was to make Montpelier a vision of destination," she said. "I remember some people going 'really?' and we're like 'yes' because we have that vision.



"We know that Montpelier is a great place to be and we couldn't do that without the sponsors and the partnership with the village and the people from the community and the businesses and the council."

The community is an important aspect to these projects, Paulette Mills, client relations representative for Poggemeyer Design Group, said at the meeting.

Hull agreed, adding the community is capable of doing great things, as they couldn't have grown the Bean Days Balloon Festival into what it is without community support.

"I think it's great what our community is doing, what this steering committee and village is doing," she added. "The passion of the people is there, as well."

When asked, Chris Kannel, village councilman and member of the trail committee, said the project has already received a lot of support from the community.

"Right now, we have over 50 letters of support from the community," he said. "If we can get 100, that would be awesome."

A form letter is available by contacting the village office at 419-485-5543.

Mayor Steve Yagelski spoke at the meeting, saying he and Village Manager Kevin Brooks are not giving up on Montpelier, even as state and federal funding has decreased, making things harder for towns to thrive.

"We've listened to the public, we've listened to all age groups, we decided this is a baby step," Yagelski said.

The mayor said he recently took a walk and found several aspects of Montpelier that make it a great place to be such as the fairgrounds, the veteran's building, parks and the historical grove.

This historical grove is not often used, but as Yagelski was walking through it the other day, he found himself inspired by the inscription on the monument there, which reads: "In honor of the achievements of our forefathers and the dreams of our youth, dedicated Aug. 12, 1995."

"Whoever came up with that quote was already thinking of the future," Yagelski said. "I think (the trail) is great. Why I think it's great is the involvement of the community and the public that we know it as today."

The trail will move along the St. Joseph River, and will officially be called the Iron Horse Trail, though Kannel believes many people will call it the Moose Trail.

"It starts at the Montpelier Senior Center, which is the former Moose Lodge," he said.

From there, it enters into village-owned property — around 75 acres including flood plains and open fields the village rents out — and runs along the St. Joseph River until it reaches River Street on the north gate of the Williams County Fairgrounds. The trail will be just under 2 miles in length.

While it is currently a rough trail with hills, Kannel said there are plans to make it ADA accessible and accessible for mosquito spraying and snow plowing, making it a year-around trail for the public.

The committee is working on several different ideas for amenities throughout the park, including a restroom, a possible canoe and kayak launch and even a fitness area.

However, all of that comes with a cost.

The 10-foot-wide asphalt path alone will cost approximately \$734,000, with the restrooms coming in at around \$139,650.

Furnishings, such as signs and benches, will be nearly \$20,000, the launch around \$98,000 and the fitness stations will cost around \$80,000.

Mills said there are many ways to fund this trail, including receiving money directly from the state through Sen. Rob McColley, with whom the committee has already discussed the trail. The village has its own parks and recreation funds it could use and several grants are available through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio Department of Transportation.

The plan is still in the draft phase, but officials are already working on applying for grants. Kannel said the first step in the first application process has a deadline in early February.

The good news is the whole project doesn't have to be done all at once.

"There are some parts of this project — like cleaning up the river, park benches and those kinds of things — that we can do as a community over time," he said.

In addition, as pointed out by officials and citizens at the meeting, there are service organizations that could help funding and Boy Scouts looking for community service projects that could help in various ways.

ltbechtol

https://www.bryantimes.com/commissioners-support-montpelier-trail/article_b17e6543-de3d-5886-a4bc-b5f5606f6b16.html

Commissioners support Montpelier trail

By Don Koralewski editor@bryantimes.com Jan 22, 2018

According to Montpelier Mayor Steve Yagelski, dozens of businesses and organizations have signed on to support Montpelier's vision for a hiking and bike trail in town, and Williams County Commissioners agreed to pen a letter of support as well.

"We're not asking for any money," Yagelski told Commissioners Monday morning, "we're just asking for a letter of support."

Yagelski said about 50 businesses and community organizations have provided letters of support, and the village is working with state agencies and Sen. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) in identifying grants and other possible funding sources for the project.



Letters of support for the project will be included in grant and funding applications for the project, and organizers expect that they will give added weight to community buy-in for the project when it comes to attracting grant funding.

According to Yagelski, the project will serve as an anchor for community development and identify Montpelier as a destination community. "Now, there's nothing that is attracting you to spend time in Montpelier," he said.

The trail is currently envisioned as a 14-foot wide hiking and bike trail that would attach not only to the existing bike path in Montpelier, the downtown area and the fairgrounds, but also to the Wabash Cannonball trail. It would then extend beyond corporation limits where other municipalities could potentially hook in to the trail.

Yagelski said part of the consideration to date includes a veterans trail that would lead visitors to veterans monuments in Montpelier.

Village Administrator Kevin Brooks added that the trail could include youth programs related to area wildlife study. Trail planners, he said, are working with property owners along the trail to assure them that their concerns will be taken into account as the trail moves closer to reality.

"We'll be respectful of their concerns," said Brooks.

Commissioners unanimously approved a letter of support for the project.

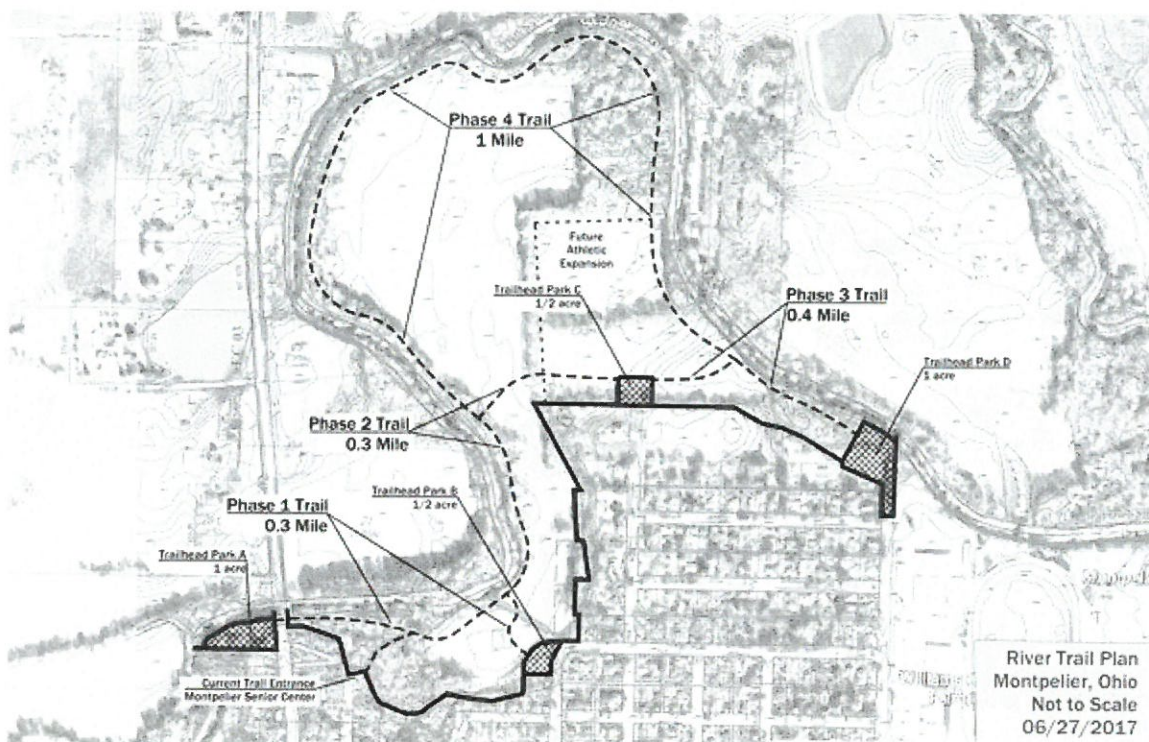
Editor's note: A second public meeting about the bike path plan is scheduled for tonight, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Montpelier Fire Department, 107 S. Monroe St., Montpelier.

—

Montpelier trail, communications tower may get state funding

- By JOSH EWERS jewers@bryantimes.com

- Mar 3, 2018



Pictured is a map of a proposed trail system the Village of Montpelier is working to develop. Courtesy graphic Chris

As part of Ohio's proposed \$2.6 billion budget, \$725,000 is expected to go toward Montpelier's in-the-works Iron Horse River Trail and a new Williams County Communications tower Trail, should the budget go through.

If approved, \$325,000 would go toward creating a 2.3-mile long, 10-foot-wide paved trail for walking and biking with a two-foot berm that runs along the St. Joseph River, furthering the village's efforts to drive interest, traffic, new residents and commerce toward the village and eventually to develop connectivity of its trails with the Wabash Cannonball Trail through other funding sources.

Another \$400,000 has been identified for a project to erect a public safety tower to serve all of Williams County.

The funds are part of identical budget bills put forth in the Ohio House and Senate.

"We do not expect any issues in the House or Senate, but until passed and sign by the governor, anything is possible," said Williams County Commissioner Brian Davis. Montpelier Village Administrator Kevin Brooks echoed that sentiment.

The budget is expected to be approved by April 2017, according to Davis.

Communications Tower

As Davis and Williams County Communications Director Dawn Baldwin explained, the tower will fill a need the county has had for more than a decade.

"Since 1995, there has been a need for better radio communications in Williams County and that would be a step in that direction," Baldwin said. "All that matters to us is when we push the button everything works ... It definitely benefits us.

"When law enforcement is out in the county there are down spots, but there's always been a challenge with cost, location and height to erect our own tower," Davis said.

Should the money go through, the \$400,000 from the Department of Public Safety will cover a large swath of the total \$534,000 project cost, according to Davis. The 350-foot tower will be erected on the Hillside Country Living property on County Road 16. Davis

said a topographical study determined that to be the most suitable site for maximum area coverage.

Construction of the tower will begin once state approval is given, which could take several months. Davis says in December he petitioned both Rep. Jim Hoops and Sen. Rob McColley through a capital budget request to make an effort to procure the funding.

“We’re ecstatic to receive it,” Davis said.

Other funds for the project may still be forthcoming through grant dollars, Davis said.

Trail

To date, more than 70 businesses have thrown their support behind Montpelier’s proposed trail project, according to Brooks.

Should the state budget go through, the funds would be the first to be allocated for the project.

Brooks hopes that, if the money is made official, it will be a spring board to bolster other grant funding opportunities through the Ohio Department of Transportation and other sources to connect the trail to the Wabash Cannonball trail as well as iconic and important sites around Montpelier.

Additionally, Brooks says the village has a vision of creating biking and pedestrian lanes throughout Montpelier.

“We’re trying to reinvent Montpelier as a destination community. Right now all people do is pass through and go somewhere else. We want it to be a place where you come and spend some time and money around our downtown,” said Brooks. “We’re trying to diversify and have a lot of reasons for people to invest in and travel to Montpelier. We want to grow our community.

“We’re thinking bed and breakfast, come for a weekend to Montpelier, get on your bike, get on and off the trail, stay in our community. We’re creating a destination,” he said.

The Iron Horse portion of the project is currently planned to incorporate kayak and canoe launch stations and a walk-off fitness center. Brooks says the entirety of the trail and anything that appears on it will be Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant.

As Brooks noted, nothing has yet been engineered for the overall project, so he is still very much open to dialogue with residents regarding what they envision and what their concerns are. Brooks noted the entirety of the project will be undertaken on village property.

“We will be engaging with folks adjacent to the property moving forward. We don’t want to ruffle any feathers, but we’re going to develop that to the best of our ability,” he said. “We want to put things into the trail that people in our community can use; You might only have tourists six months out of the year.”

A 15-year, 100 percent tax abatement plan on residential and commercial improvements over \$5,000 is also part of the overall effort to revitalize the village.

Elected officials

Hoops and McColley announced the funds arrival via a joint press release Friday.

“The capital budget is a great opportunity for our state to invest directly in the local communities, improving the quality of life of those in the region,” said McColley.

“I want to thank the local officials for bringing attention to these very important projects for the communities in Williams County,” said Hoops. “This gives communities an opportunity to complete projects for their constituents that they would not otherwise be able to do because of lack of local resources.”

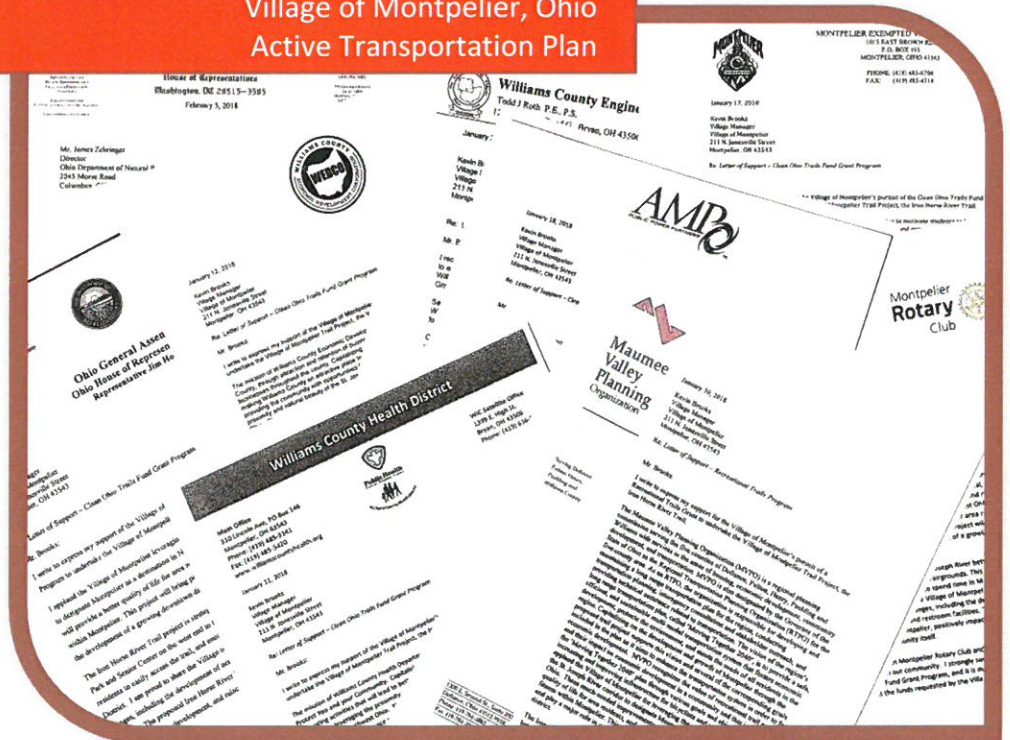
“The Board of Commissioners is exceptionally grateful for the help and support with this project by Sen. McColley and Rep. Hoops,” Davis said. “They were extremely instrumental in securing the funding and without their assistance, said funding would not have been possible.”

https://www.bryantimes.com/news/local/montpelier-trail-communications-tower-may-get-state-funding/article_aff99385-ef8f-5cb7-833c-8825f1368a3a.html

Appendix D

Letters of Support

Village of Montpelier, Ohio Active Transportation Plan





Maumee Valley Planning Organization

January 30, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Recreational Trails Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support for the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of a Recreational Trails Grant to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The Maumee Valley Planning Organization (MVPO) is a regional planning commission serving the five counties of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding and Williams with services in the areas of housing, economic development, community development, and transportation. MVPO is also designated by the Governor of the State of Ohio as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for the five-county area. As an RTPO, the organization is responsible for developing and maintaining a long range transportation plan for the region, conducting transportation planning, interagency consultation and stakeholder outreach, and providing technical assistance related to transportation. The vision of the region's long range transportation plan, called 'Moving Together 2040', is to provide a safe, efficient, and sustainable multi-modal transportation system that fosters economic development, protects the environment, and meets the needs of all residents in the region. Capitalizing on the development and growth of Montpelier through the proposed trail project supports this vision and several of the corresponding goals included in the plan as it aims to enhance the transportation system in order to foster economic development. MVPO recognizes the value of recreational trail projects and their impact on economic development in a community and this is illustrated in the 'Moving Together 2040' plan through various goals and objectives that relate to increasing and improving infrastructure for bicyclists and pedestrians in the region. I applaud the Village of Montpelier for leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail,

Serving Defiance,
Fulton, Henry,
Paulding and
Williams County

1300 E. Second St., Suite 200
Defiance, Ohio 43512-9918
Phone 419-784-3882
Fax 419-784-2061

and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. MVPO is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between MVPO and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our region. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Recreational Trails Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,



Dennis Miller, Executive Director

Williams County Health District

Main Office

310 Lincoln Ave, PO Box 146
Montpelier, OH 43543
Phone: (419) 485-3141
Fax: (419) 485-5420
www.williamscountyhealth.org



WIC Satellite Office

1399 E. High St.
Bryan, OH 43506
Phone: (419) 636-8754

January 11, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of Williams County Health Department is to Prevent Disease and Injury, Promote Health and Wellness and Protect You and your Community. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by promoting activities that will lead to better health outcomes for residents of the community. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. Williams County Health Department is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between Williams County Health Department and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James D. Watkins", is written over the typed name.

James D. Watkins RS, MPH
Health Commissioner



**Kannel
Insurance**
Kannel Superior Agency, Inc.

419-485-4281

301 W. Main Street
Montpelier, Ohio 43543
www.kannelinsurance.com

January 12, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

Kannel Insurance supports a wide range of projects and Montpelier and surrounding communities. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. Kannel Insurance is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between Kannel Insurance and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

Chris Kannel
Kannel Superior Agency, Inc.
office@kannelinsurance.com

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We are an **INDEPENDENT AGENCY**
Serving our customers and our community for 60 years!



January 18, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write on behalf of American Municipal Power Inc. in support of the Village of Montpelier’s Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program application for the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

We applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. The Clean Ohio funds will facilitate much-needed improvements to the trail corridor, which includes lighting controlled by automatic meters. The trail, new lighting and other amenities will provide for the most efficient use of energy while contributing to a better quality of life for area residents and visitors, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

American Municipal Power, Inc. is proud to share the Village of Montpelier’s focus on a connected, energy efficient environment. We understand that the proposed changes will provide year-round access, including the development of nearly two miles of paved trail, with amenities such as lighting, off-trail shelters, benches and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will become a source of community identity and pride and positively impact economic development.

I support Montpelier’s application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources award the funds requested.

Sincerely,

Jolene Thompson
Executive Vice President of Member Services and External Affairs

DELAWARE DELAWARE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC CORPORATION **INDIANA** CANNELTON **KENTUCKY** BENHAM • BERA • PADUCAH • PARIS • PRINCETON • WILLIAMSTOWN
MARYLAND BERLIN **MICHIGAN** CLINTON • COLDWATER • HILLSDALE • MARSHALL • UNION CITY • WYANDOTIE **OHIO** AMHERST • ARCADIA • ARCANUM • BEACH CITY • BLANCHESTER
BLOOMDALE • BOWLING GREEN • BRADNER • BREWSTER • BRYAN • CAREY • CELINA • CLEVELAND • CLYDE • COLUMBIANA • COLUMBUS • CUSTAR • CUYAHOGA FALLS • CYGNET • DELTA • DESHLER
DOVER • EDGERTON • ELDORADO • ELMORE • GALION • GENOA • GEORGETOWN • GLOUSTIER • GRAFTON • GREENWICH • HAMILTON • HASKINS • HOLIDAY CITY • HUBBARD • HUDSON • HURON
JACKSON • JACKSON CENTER • LAKEVIEW • LEBANON • LODI • LUCAS • MARSHALLVILLE • MENDON • MILAN • MINSTER • MONROEVILLE • MONPELIER • NAPOLEON • NEW BREMEN
NEW KNOXVILLE • NEWTON FALLS • NILES • OAK HARBOR • OBERLIN • OHIO CITY • ORRVILLE • PAINESVILLE • PEMBERVILLE • PIONEER • PIQUA • PLYMOUTH • PROSPECT • REPUBLIC • SEVILLE SHELBY •
SHILOH • SOUTH VIENNA • ST. CLAIRSVILLE • ST. MARYS • SYCAMORE • TIPP CITY • TOLEDO • VERSAILLES • WADSWORTH • WAPAKONETA • WAYNESFIELD • WELLINGTON • WESTERVILLE WHARTON •
WOODSFIELD • WOODVILLE • YELLOW SPRINGS **PENNSYLVANIA** BERLIN • BLAKELY • CATAWISSA • DUNCANNON • EAST CONEMAUGH • ELLWOOD CITY • EPHRATA • GIRARD GOLDSBORO •
GROVE CITY • HATFIELD • HOOVERVILLE • KUTZTOWN • LANSDALE • LEHIGHTON • LEWISBERRY • MIFFLINBURG • NEW WILMINGTON • PERKASIE • QUAKERTOWN • ROYALTON SAINT CLAIR •
SCHUYLKILL HAVEN • SMETHPORT • SUMMERHILL • WAMPUM • WATSONTOWN • WEATHERLY • ZELLENOPLE **VIRGINIA** REDFORD • DANVILLE • FRONT ROYAL • MARTINSVILLE • RICHLANDS
WEST VIRGINIA NEW MARTINSVILLE • PHILIPPI

PO BOX 471
Montpelier, Ohio 43543
montpelierrotaryclub@gmail.com



established 1937

January 12, 2018

Kevin Brooks, Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of Montpelier Rotary Club is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders. We applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. Montpelier Rotary Club is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between Montpelier Rotary Club and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Village of Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Abigail L. Wurm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Abigail L. Wurm

Rotary President 2017-2018



MONTPELIER EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

1015 EAST BROWN RD.
P.O. BOX 193
MONTPELIER, OHIO 43543

PHONE: (419) 485-6704
FAX: (419) 485-4318

January 17, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of the Montpelier Exempted Village School District is to motivate students to become productive and responsible citizens. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by creating a community where our students will choose to return after their training and have the opportunity to apply their skills and raise their families in a community they are proud to call home. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. The Montpelier Exempted Village School District is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between the Montpelier Exempted Village School District and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

SUPERINTENDENT
DR. JAMISON J. GRIME

CFO/TREASURER
CARLA RICE

MISSION STATEMENT

In partnership with family and community, the Mission of the Montpelier Exempted Village School District is to educate students to their maximum potential and motivate them to be productive and responsible citizens.



Williams County Engineer

Todd J Roth P.E., P.S.

12953 County Road G Bryan, OH 43506

Phone: 419-636-2454

Fax: 419-636-8687

www.wmscoengineer.com

January 29, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, Ohio 43543

Re: Letter of Support-Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program

Mr. Brooks:

I received a copy of the Village of Montpelier's Iron Horse River Trail Master Plan and wanted to express my encouragement and support. As the County Engineer and a member of the Williams County Park Board I would gladly support the pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant to help you in the advancement of your parks.

Safe outdoor recreation provides an important quality of life for the residents of Montpelier and Williams County. The improvements that you are proposing will enhance safe opportunities for outdoor recreation and with that better health.

One of the goals of the Park Board is to promote growth and development thru awareness of what Williams County has to offer in our rural community. Montpelier obviously has the beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor and it is wonderful to see your strong efforts to encourage residents and provide the means for them to enjoy the outdoors.

The more each community does to develop outdoor activities such as the Iron Horse River Trail the stronger our County becomes and the more positive economic impact we all benefit from.

I look forward to working with the Village of Montpelier and hope we can develop a partnership to improve Williams County and Montpelier's quality of life with the enhancement of our outdoor recreational activities. I hope that we can continue to move forward together and again I strongly support Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program and hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards funds to the Village of Montpelier for the benefit of our community.

Sincerely,

Todd J. Roth, P.E. P.S.



January 12, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of Williams County Economic Development (WEDCO) is to maintain a high quality of life in Williams County, through attraction and retention of business by being a premier reference and resource center for all businesses throughout the county. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by making Williams County an attractive place to live and work, increasing the quality of life in Williams County, and providing the community with opportunities for healthy activities. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. WEDCO is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between WEDCO and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

Matthew Davis, AICP
Executive Director

Jim Hoops
81st Ohio House District

Serving Putnam County, Henry County,
Williams County, and parts of Fulton County



Verne Riffe Center
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: (614) 466-3760
Rep81@ohiohouse.gov

Ohio General Assembly
Ohio House of Representatives
Representative Jim Hoops

January 30, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. I am proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

Jim Hoops
81st Ohio House District

Serving Putnam County, Henry County,
Williams County, and parts of Fulton County



Verne Riffe Center
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Phone: (614) 466-3760
Rep81@ohiohouse.gov

**Ohio General Assembly
Ohio House of Representatives
Representative Jim Hoops**

I look forward to working with the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in the community starting with this project. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Hoops".

Jim Hoops
State Representative 81st District

BRIAN A. DAVIS
President
419-481-2999

TERRY N. RUMMEL
Vice President
419-551-1688

LEWIS D. HILKERT
Commissioner
419-551-4462

ANNE M. RETCHER, Clerk
ROBIN R. KEMP, Assistant Clerk

WILLIAMS COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OFFICE
ONE COURTHOUSE SQUARE
BRYAN, OHIO 43506-1791
PHONE 419-636-2059 FAX 419-636-0643

January 22, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

We write to express our support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of the Board of Williams County Commissioners is that we fully support the efforts of the Village of Montpelier on the Trail Project as they are capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier.

We applaud the Village of Montpelier for leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. The Board of Williams County Commissioners are proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and are excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

We look forward to expanding the partnership between the Board of Williams County Commissioners and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. We strongly support the Village of Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is our sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Brian A. Davis, President



Terry N. Rummel, Vice-President



Lewis D. Hilbert, Member

/amr

January 17, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of **Montpelier Bean Days Balloon Fest** is to 'support community pride...setting a pattern of growth' ! Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by **supporting community revitalization**. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. **Montpelier Bean Days Balloon Fest** is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between **Montpelier Bean Days Balloon Fest** and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Hull, Planning Co-Chair/President

Tashia Thompson- Planning Co-Chair/Treasurer

Montpelier Bean Days Planning Team

January 24, 2018

Re: *Letter of Support – Iron Horse River Trail Project*



To Whom It May Concern,

As the owner of local business Distinctive Roof Services, I would like to express my support for the vision that the Active Transportation Committee has. I believe that the proposed Iron Horse River Trail Project is a great idea and it has my full support.

One of the things I like about this project is its practicality. The Iron Horse River Trail Project is attempting to make great use of existing, but currently underutilized resources. The fact that an unimproved trail with no signage, no amenities, and no village maintenance has survived so many decades proves that even in its current state, people find it worthy of using. The trail deserves to be improved so that more people have the opportunity to enjoy it. This project is not an experiment or a gimmick looking for a home, it is a time-tested natural resource that has been overlooked for a very long time.

Another practical aspect of this project is its scope. The Iron Horse River Trail project has a vision and is big enough to accomplish its goals without trying to be everything to everyone. In my opinion, that will let the project age gracefully and be a lasting, functional part of the community. The fact that there is a proposed future recreation park area at the Pleasant St. trailhead shows the foresight of this team. Yes, that will be a great place to put something if needed but is that something a playground, a soccer field, an archery range, a parking lot, or wildflower garden and bee/butterfly habitat? By setting this aside for now, it will allow the park and the community to get a good feel for what is going to fit best in there once the trail itself starts being utilized. I feel that the Iron Horse River Trail will be a great launchpad for many smaller projects (wood chip side trails, additional river access points up or down river, community events, etc) and our community is blessed with so many wonderful groups and individuals that can help make those things happen.

It is exciting to see forward thinking, yet practical leadership in our community. I believe that Montpelier is on the right track and am thankful to see community leaders actively working to preserve our history, while creating successes in the present, and being mindful of the future.

Also, please be sure to let me know what I can do to help. Do you need a roof on the restroom or any other structures? Do you need sponsorships to place benches or trash cans along the trail? Distinctive Roof Services would like to be involved if possible.

Sincerely,

Jason Luke

Distinctive Roof Services

ROBERT E. LATTA
5TH DISTRICT, OHIO

DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
DIGITAL COMMERCE AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION
CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3505

February 5, 2018

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2448 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 225-6405

DISTRICT OFFICES:
1045 NORTH MAIN STREET
SUITE 6
BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402
(419) 354-8700

101 CLINTON STREET
SUITE 1200
DELANCO, OH 43512
(419) 782-1996

318 DORNEY PLAZA
ROOM 302
FINDLAY, OH 45840
(419) 422-7791

Mr. James Zehringer
Director
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
2045 Morse Road
Columbus, OH 43229-6605

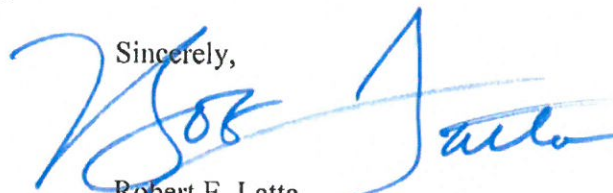
Dear Director Zehringer,

I am writing in support of the Village of Montpelier's grant application for the Clean Ohio Trails Fund. The monies would be utilized to construct the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, The Iron Horse River Trail.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end of the Village, to the Williams County Fairgrounds on the east side. The proposed improvements include a nearly two mile paved trail, shelters, benches and restroom facilities. The location allows easily accessible trails and encourages visitors to partake in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District.

In light of the positive economic benefits, as well as improvements to recreational options and quality of life, I encourage your careful and thoughtful consideration of the Village of Montpelier's application for funding.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress

REL/ks

January 19, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of The Montpelier Civic League is to give one's self to the community, its problems and to the people who live in it as well as giving material aid where ever it may be needed. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by bringing more folks into our great community. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. The Montpelier Civic League is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between The Montpelier Civic League and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

The Ladies of the Montpelier Civic League

Su Thorp, president
Stacy Lillard, vice president
Jenni Hoosier, secretary
Tashia Thompson, treasurer

Thompson-Geesey Funeral Homes

204 East Main Street
Montpelier, Ohio
(419) 485-3128

303 First Street
Pioneer, Ohio
(419) 737-2323

335 Empire Street
Montpelier, Ohio
(419)485-3131

Fax (419) 485-8669
Email thompsongeesey@hotmail.com
Website www.thethompsonfuneralhome.com

January 22, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of The Thompson Funeral Home is to guide families through all aspects of the funeral service with compassion, dignity and respect. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by bringing more families into our community. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. The Thompson Funeral Home is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between The Thompson Funeral Home and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

Tashia Thompson

January 11, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of the Bryan High School Fly Angling Club is to protect and enjoy our natural resources (St. Joseph River) on our way to aquatic stewardship. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by increasing public access and conservation interest in the St. Joseph River Watershed. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. The Bryan High School Fly Angling Club is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between Bryan High School Fly Angling Club and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

Robert Lakes

BHS Fly Angling Club - Founder and Advisor



January 11, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of CK Technologies is to constantly cultivate our Triple Bottom Line culture of People, Planet, and Profit. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by reinforcing our belief that we must sustain our environment, while improving ours and our employee's community. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. CK Technologies is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between CK Technologies and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tony Kramer'.

Tony Kramer
President

January 11, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of Montpelier Area Chamber of Commerce is to capitalize the development and growth of Montpelier. We applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. The Montpelier Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between The Montpelier Area Chamber of Commerce and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

Susan Gearhart

Executive Director

And The Montpelier Chamber Board of Directors



13050 St Rt 107
MONTPELIER, OH 43543
PH : (419) 485-3501
FAX: (419) 485-5628

January 11, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

Owen's Electric supports a wide range of projects in Montpelier and surrounding communities. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

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I look forward to expanding the partnership between Owen's Electric and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,



DERROW-SHIRKEY

MONTPELIER, OHIO



January 11, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: *Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program*

Mr. Brooks:

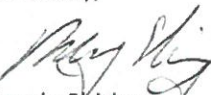
I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. Derrrow Shirkey Ford Lincoln is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between Derrrow Shirkey Ford Lincoln and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,



Randy Shirkey

Derrrow Shirkey Ford Lincoln

January 11, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program

Mr. Brooks:


I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION is to MISSION STATEMENT OF SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by cookies on demand. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

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I look forward to expanding the partnership between SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,



Paulette Mills

From: Lucas Bechtol <lbechtol@bryantimes.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 28, 2018 4:50 PM
To: Paulette Mills
Subject: Hull transcript

Sorry for the delay, but here is the transcript from Jeanette Hull, the president of the Bean Days and Balloon Festival that you asked for:

"It was five years ago today that we sat up here for a village meeting like this to try to get the support. Our theme of that year was to make Montpelier a vision of destination. I remember some people going 'really?' and we're like 'yes' because we have that vision, we know that Montpelier is a great place to be and we couldn't do that without the sponsors and the partnership with the village and the people from the community and the businesses and the council.

Saying what she's saying of community involvement and support, that's what we need for this. We couldn't have done it with the Bean Days Balloon Fest— and we're going on our fifth year— and it's exciting. If we have the community support for this, such as we had for that, that's incredible ... I just wanted to say it's possible and I think it's great what our community is doing and what this steering committee and village is doing and continue to support it and continue to get that excitement for the community of what is possible for the vision and the economic revitalization of the community because it's there. The passion of the people is there, as well."

Now, I do want to say the quotes themselves seem to imply that five years ago they created Bean Days, but that has been going on for long before (I don't know how familiar you are with the festival). I believe she was talking about the hot air balloon aspect of the festival, but am not too sure.

Again, sorry for the delay.

Lucas Bechtol
Reporter, Bryan Times
lbechtol@bryantimes.com



January 23, 2018

Kevin Brooks
Village Manager
Village of Montpelier
211 N. Jonesville Street
Montpelier, OH 43543

Re: Letter of Support – Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program

Mr. Brooks:

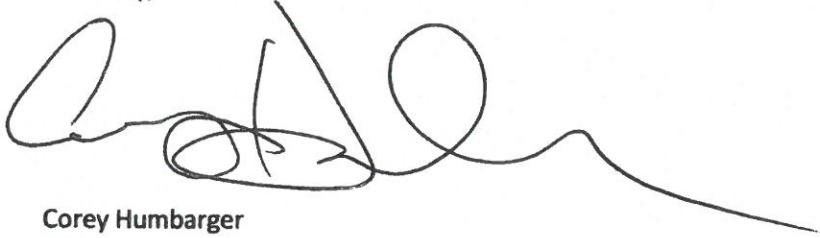
I write to express my support of the Village of Montpelier's pursuit of the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Program to undertake the Village of Montpelier Trail Project, the Iron Horse River Trail.

The mission of Drop Tine Winery and Tap House is to work with the Community to build a better Montpelier that will bring visitors to our growing village. Capitalizing the development and growth of Montpelier supports our mission by capturing the natural beauty, history and assets we already have as well as promoting a family friendly community that we can all take pride in. I applaud the Village of Montpelier leveraging the proximity and natural beauty of the St. Joseph River corridor to designate Montpelier as a destination in Northwest Ohio. These much-needed improvements to the corridor will provide a better quality of life for area residents, and enhance safe opportunities for recreation and fitness within Montpelier. This project will bring positive attention to Montpelier and play a major role in supporting the development of a growing downtown district.

The Iron Horse River Trail project is strategically located along the St. Joseph River between the Village Hall Park and Senior Center on the west end to the Williams County Fairgrounds. This location will allow for residents to easily access the trail, and encourage trail visitors to spend time in Montpelier's Historic Downtown District. Drop Tine Winery and Tap House is proud to share the Village of Montpelier's focus on a connected environment and is excited about the proposed changes, including the development of nearly 2 miles of paved trail, off-trail shelters and benches, and restroom facilities. The proposed Iron Horse River Trail project will change the perception of Montpelier, positively impact economic development, and raise awareness outside of the community itself.

I look forward to expanding the partnership between Drop Tine Winery and Tap House and the Village of Montpelier to further improve the quality of life in our community. I strongly support the Montpelier's application to the Clean Ohio Trail Fund Grant Program, and it is my sincere hope that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources awards the funds requested by the Village of Montpelier.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Corey Humbarger'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Corey Humbarger

Drop Tine Winery and Tap House

311 W. Main Street

Montpelier, OH 43543

MONTPELIER RECREATION BOARD
APRIL 24, 1984

The Recreation Board met in the Village Council Room with the following members present: President Norm Willibey, Fran Geesey, Robert Moore, Ralph Sawmiller and Howard Wilson.

I. PERSONNEL

1. It was moved by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Moore to employ the following applicants as lifeguard/clerks for the 1984 season:

Julie Beard, Full Time	Brenda Allgire, Part Time
Deedy Donaldson, Full Time	Deb Bitler, Part Time
Jim Geesey, Full Time	Rhonda Houk, Part Time
Amy Meier, Full Time	Becky McKelvey, Part Time
Sheila Young, Full Time	Molly Sheup, Part Time
2. It was moved by Mr. Sawmiller and seconded by Mr. Moore to send Deedy Donaldson, Jim Geesey and Sheila Young to Napoleon High School for training which will qualify them for their W.S.I. certification. The village will pay the \$25.00 per person class fee and the participants will provide their own transportation. The class will include 12 three and one half hour sessions beginning on May 8 and ending on June 12.
3. It was moved by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Moore to employ David Brines as Recreation Director for the 1984 season.

II. OLD FASHIONED FEST

1. It was moved by Mrs. Geesey and seconded by Mr. Wilson to grant permission to the Montpelier Area Chamber of Commerce to use the park on July 28 and 29 for the Old Fashioned Fest.

III. ATHENA STUDY CLUB

1. The Athena Study Club has donated \$375.00 to the Recreation Board to use as the board sees fit.
2. To date four (4) lounge chairs have been purchased from Gambles at a cost of \$89.44.

IV. WALKING PATH

1. The Village Beautification Committee has proposed to the Village Council that a walking path be developed on village owned land. The land borders the south side of the St. Joseph River and extends approximately from the Williams County Fair Grounds to the Moose Lodge parking lot.
2. The Village Council has asked the recreation board to study the feasibility of developing and maintaining the walking path.
3. Mrs. Florence Bernard, a member of the Beautification Committee, from the Cooperative Extension Service outlined guidelines for the development of the walking path.
4. It was moved by Mr. Sawmiller and seconded by Mr. Willibey that Mr. Wilson meet with the Beautification Committee to discuss plans to develop the proposed walking path. Mr. Wilson will also see Village Administrator John Bitler relative to having proposed site surveyed prior to finalizing plans for the path.