



MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce Walden, Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: William R. Gray, Director of Public Works
Doug Miller, Projects Coordinator
DATE: July 5, 2005
RE: High Cross Road Bike Path Grant Application

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM

The State of Illinois Department of Transportation is currently accepting applications for financial assistance for bike path projects through the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program. Grant applications must be in by August 1. Grant awards can be up to 80% of a project's cost. The proposed eight to ten foot wide High Cross Road (IL130) Bike Path would run along the west side of the road from Windsor Road to the north side of University Avenue (US 150). The path would connect to the Stone Creek Bike path, which will be constructed this summer, and also projected bike paths at Florida Avenue, Washington Street, Wal-Mart, and the former CSX rail line. A city map of our bike path system showing the general project location is attached. Significant landscaping along with two trail bridges are also included in the project scope. Informational letters were sent to all adjacent property owners and hand delivered to all adjacent existing homes/businesses. A copy of the letter is attached.

BACKGROUND/FACTS

This project was projected for 2009 in the 2005 Capital Improvement Plan as an enhancement project. However, the State announced in late May they would be soliciting applications under the program this year. From our review of potential projects, this is the best candidate at this time. The bike path would probably be constructed in late 2006 or in 2007. Once the grant is awarded there will be no additional dollars available. Our construction cost estimate reflects 2008 dollars in case there are any delays in the schedule. This change in schedule would also require postponing the Florida Avenue/Broadway Avenue Bike Path from 2007 to 2008 due to staffing considerations and to allow submittal of an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Bike Path Program grant for a portion of the local share of this project.

The State would allow construction of this path on existing State right-of-way by permit. However, after review of possible alignments for the bike path, it was determined the best location would be to the west of the State right-of-way on existing utility easements. We expect to be able to revise existing easements to facilitate the bike path at no cost to the City along approximately 60 % of the project length. There may be additional easements required along the undeveloped

area from Florida Avenue (extended) to the East Urbana Industrial Park Subdivision. The cost estimate includes some permanent easement/right-of-way acquisition. The grant would cover 50% of this acquisition cost if it is incurred.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$852,000 in 2008 dollars including \$132,000 in estimated engineering fees. Unit prices are based on the recent Public Works project bids plus a 20% contingency. Project engineering would be done with in-house staff. While this in-house engineering cost is grant eligible, our recommendation is to include in-house engineering fees as part of the local share for several reasons. The main reasons are to make the project more attractive to the State and to facilitate applying for an Illinois Department of Natural Resources Bike Path Program grant on March 1 of 2006 for 50% of the local share excluding preliminary engineering and easement costs. The in-house design and construction engineering could be used in that grant for part of our local share as can donations of land. However, preliminary engineering must be completed before the IDNR grant is submitted.

FISCAL IMPACTS

If the maximum possible amount for both grants is awarded, City out-of-pocket cost could be as low as \$20,000 if easements are donated. If the maximum enhancement grant is awarded but no IDNR grant is received and there are acquisition costs, City out-of-pocket costs are estimated to be \$162,000. The 2005 Capital Improvement Plan projected a City cost share of \$100,000 in 2005 dollars. A copy of the project cost estimate and the projected break down of the enhancement cost share are also attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION REQUIRED

It is recommended that a resolution of support for the application authorizing the Mayor to submit the grant application be approved. A copy of the proposed resolution is attached.

Prepared by: _____
Douglas H. Miller
Projects Coordinator

Approved by: _____
William R. Gray
Director of Public Works

June 29, 2005

Dear Property Owner/Resident:

The City of Urbana is considering applying for a federal grant to pay 80% of the construction of an eight to ten foot wide multiuse bike path along the west side of High Cross Road (IL130) from Windsor Road to University Avenue (US150). A map showing the general location of the bike path is on the back of this letter. The path would probably be constructed on existing easements or State right-of-way on the east side of your property. If additional easements are needed from you the City would contact you about granting those easements. Any bike path construction or easement should not affect the development of your property. In fact, if your property is not already subdivided, the bike path would meet sidewalk construction requirements along High Cross Road whenever your property is developed.

If approved by the City Council and funded by the federal program, the City would then apply for an additional 10% grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. There will be no direct cost to property owners or residents for this project. Construction would probably take place in fall 2006 or summer 2007.

The City Council will be holding a public hearing on this proposed project on Monday, July 11, 2005 at 7:15 p.m. at the Urbana City Council Chambers at 400 S. Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois.

You may comment on the proposed project at this hearing. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may submit written or e-mailed comments by 5:00 p.m., Monday, July 18, 2005 to the Urbana Public Works Department, 706 South Glover Avenue, Urbana, Illinois, 61802, Attention: Doug Miller (dhmiller@city.urbana.il.us).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Mr. Doug Miller at 384-2387.

Sincerely,

Douglas H. Miller.
Projects Coordinator

**A RESOLUTION
OF SUPPORT FOR APPLICATION FOR
ILLINOIS TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT FUNDS
BY THE CITY OF URBANA
(High Cross Road Bike Path)**

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana has expressed its commitment to the establishment of bike paths as illustrated in recently constructed capital improvements such as the Windsor Road, Philo Road, and Goodwin Avenue bike paths, its commitment to their construction in new developments such as the Savannah Green, Prairie Winds, and Stone Creek subdivisions with future project construction designated in the City's ten-year 2005 Capital Improvement Plan and the City's Comprehensive Plan (as amended), which include the High Cross Road Bike Path;

WHEREAS, through its staff, the City of Urbana, Urbana Park District, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Champaign County Design & Conservation Foundation, Champaign County Forest Preserve District, Champaign County Highway Department, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, Champaign Park District, Champaign Urbana Mass Transit District, City of Champaign, Village of Mahomet, Village of Rantoul, and Village of Savoy have jointly developed a regional Greenways and Trails Plan designating proposed bike paths, trails and other greenways; and

WHEREAS, these planning efforts further reflect the commitment to a community based bike path system involving multiple government agencies and user groups in its use and establishment; and

WHEREAS, there are funds available through the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program for the development and improvement of public bike paths; and

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana has determined that it is in its best interests to apply for said funding to further extend the separate bike path system.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council finds and determines that the facts contained in the above recitations are true.

Section 2. That the Urbana City Council does hereby authorize the Mayor to submit a grant request on behalf of the City to the State of Illinois Department of Transportation's Enhancement Program for the purpose of financing part of the project costs of the proposed bike path improvements on High Cross Road and is authorized to execute any subsequent documents related to the submission of the grant application, and the subsequent receipt of funds through said grant.

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of _____, 2005.

Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this _____ day of _____, 2005.

Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor

PROJECT COSTS

It is critical to your project and IDOT's programming to provide the most accurate information possible. Cost estimates should be prepared by someone familiar with the type of work proposed, such as an engineering firm or architectural firm. If available, attach a detailed cost estimate.

Cost Estimates Prepared By: Douglas H. Miller Phone No.: 217-384-2387

Agency/Firm: City Of Urbana

<u>Type of Work</u>	<u>Federal Share</u>	<u>Sponsor Share (Local Match)</u>	<u>Ineligible Items</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Preliminary Engineering I		33,000		33,000
Preliminary Engineering II		66,000		66,000
Right-of-Way Acquisition (50/50)	30,000	30,000		60,000
Utility Relocations	8,000	2,000		10,000
Construction	520,000	130,000		650,000
Construction Engineering		33,000		33,000
Total Project Costs	558,000	294,000		852,000

Federal Enhancement Share \$ 558,000 *(Transfer totals from above)*

Sponsor Share \$ 294,000

Ineligible Items \$ _____

Total Project Costs \$ 852,000

NOTE: Maximum allowable combined percentages of PE I, PE II and CE is 30% of construction total.

A minimum 20 percent local match is required for all types of work with the exception of right-of-way acquisition, which requires a 50 percent local match.

_____ % Percent local match <i>(for official use only)</i>
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If you have or will be applying for funding through other programs or state agencies for the proposed enhancement project or for the sponsor match, please provide the following information: the agency, type of program, amount of funds.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources Bike Path Program - \$115,000

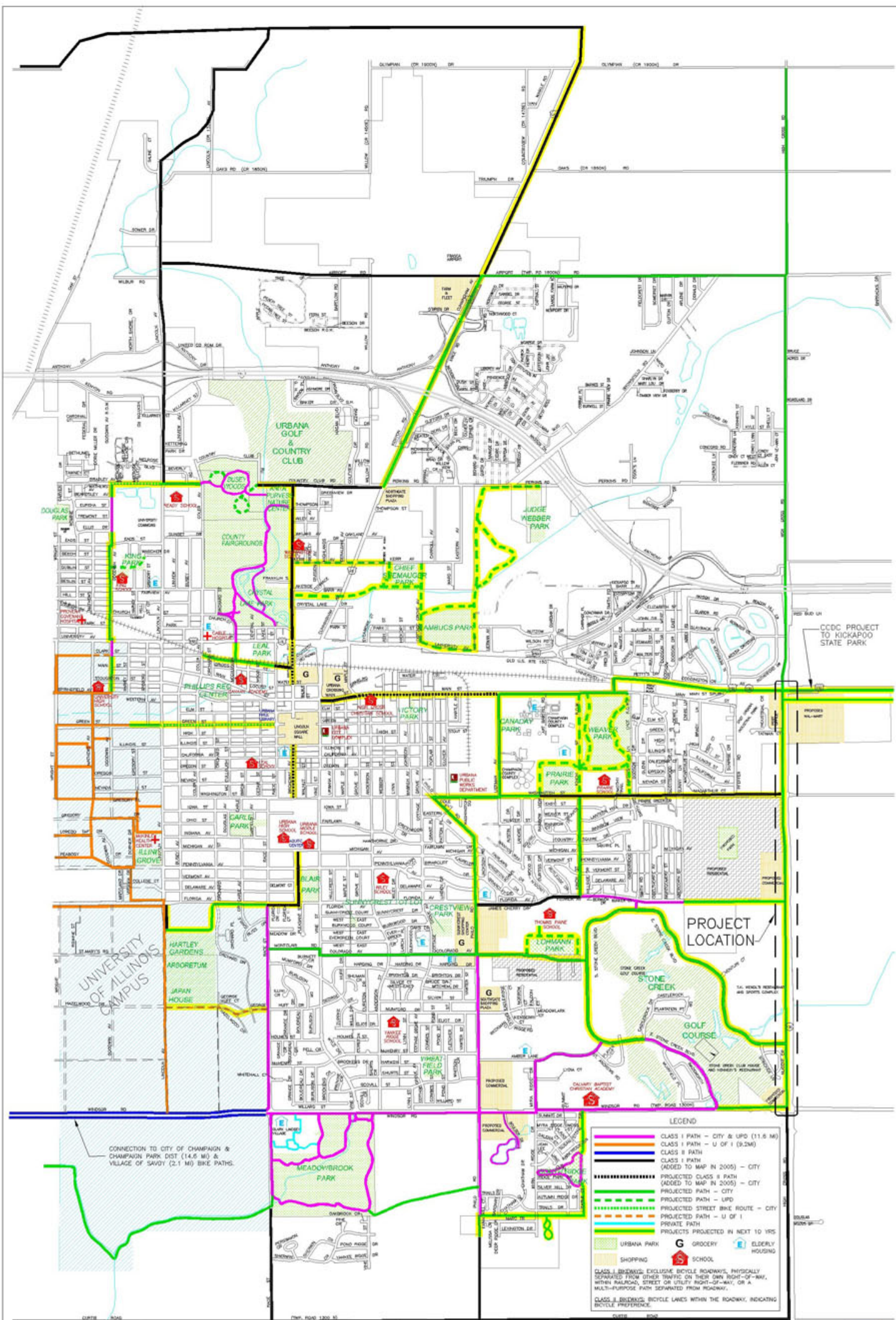


FIGURE R
BIKE PATH SYSTEM

NORTH
SCALE
1"=2100'



07/06/05