



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Planning Division

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Urbana Plan Commission

FROM: Michaela Bell Oktay, Senior Planner

DATE: April 15, 2004

SUBJECT: DRAFT Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan

Greenways Plan Intro

The Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan has been completed and was officially approved by the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) in February 2004. The Plan is an effort coordinated by local agencies to develop the county greenways and trails system. The plan identifies goals and objectives developed by the Greenways and Trails Steering Committee that will help to evolve the existing system over the next 20 years. The City of Urbana was a contributing agency through funding and Steering Committee Membership.

Background

The public was included throughout the planning process via workshops, resident surveys, comment cards, and focus groups. Throughout this effort, each member agency updated their Greenway and facility inventories, created and processed a survey, renewed implementation goals, created new maps and identified and prioritized county greenways and trails for the next 20 years.

Issues and Discussion

This dynamic document will continue to change on a yearly basis based on the planning forces in each agency. The existing and proposed future trails identified in this Greenways and Trails Plan have been incorporated into the Draft Future Land Use Maps that are currently being reviewed by the public and the Steering Committee for the Urbana Comprehensive Plan Update. During the Comprehensive Plan Update, elements of the County Greenways and Trails Plan that pertain to the City of Urbana should be included in the future land use maps and also within the text of the Transportation section.

Staff will present the Champaign County Greenways and Trails Plan in a Study Session on April 22, 2004. This will be an opportunity for the Commission to learn about the plan and to forward any comments to the Regional Plan Commission if necessary. The goal of the study session is to seek a recommendation to endorse the County Greenways and Trails Plan to be forwarded to the

Urbana City Council.

Attached are some highlights from the Champaign County Greenways and Trails Plan. These include the Greenways and Trails Project Calendar showing the timeline of the project. Also included are pages 35-38, which discuss and list the prioritized projects for the County. The section discusses conditions in the next 20 years and how agencies have and will continue to prioritize County Greenways and Trails Projects on a yearly basis depending on each agency internal planning processes affect trails. Enclosed is a copy of the Champaign County Greenways and Trails Map, published in March 2004. The Draft Greenways & Trails Plan can be accessed and printed in Adobe .pdf format at <http://www.ccrpc.org/greenways/index.html>. Paper copies will also be provided to Commissioners if requested, please contact Michaela Oktay, Senior Planner if you wish to obtain a CD or hard copy of the Plan.