

**CITY OF WAUKESHA****Administration**

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Common Council Item Number: #22-3820	Date: 3/21/2022
Submitted By: Ron Grall, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry Melissa Lipska, Parks & Forestry Operations Manager	City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator KL
Finance Department Review: Diane Vandebush-Kohlmann, Interim Finance Director DVK	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney BR
Subject: Review and act on a Memorandum of Understanding with Waukesha County and We Energies for a spur trail connection to the existing New Berlin County Trail within the We Energies easement.	

Details: The Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department, along with the Engineering Department and the City Attorney's Office, have been working with Waukesha County for construction of a spur trail to connect to the existing New Berlin County Trail. The spur trail will be located in the We Energies corridor between Lincoln Avenue and the Les Paul Parkway/Highway 59. Pending the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Waukesha County and We Energies, this spur will connect the off-street New Berlin Connector Trail to the New Berlin Trail. This will virtually eliminate bicycle and pedestrian traffic from Lincoln Avenue, which is a safety concern for all involved.

Options & Alternatives:
The City has attempted for several years to extend their lease with Union Pacific further east to make the trail connection, to no avail. Currently, the bicycle and pedestrian traffic uses Lincoln Avenue, which is frequently congested with heavy truck traffic, causing a safety concern.

Financial Remarks:
The City will bid and construct the trail improvements. Funding for this design and construction project was approved as part of the City's 2021 CIP Budget in the Bike/Ped Improvements org 5533. The City will be responsible for maintenance of the trail, including but not limited to snow removal, sealcoating, shoulder mowing, etc.

Executive Action:
Recommend approval by Common Council of the Memorandum of Understanding with Waukesha County and We Energies for Trail Access Purposes.

Committee Recommendation:
Approval of the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Board, with recommendation for approval to the Common Council.

