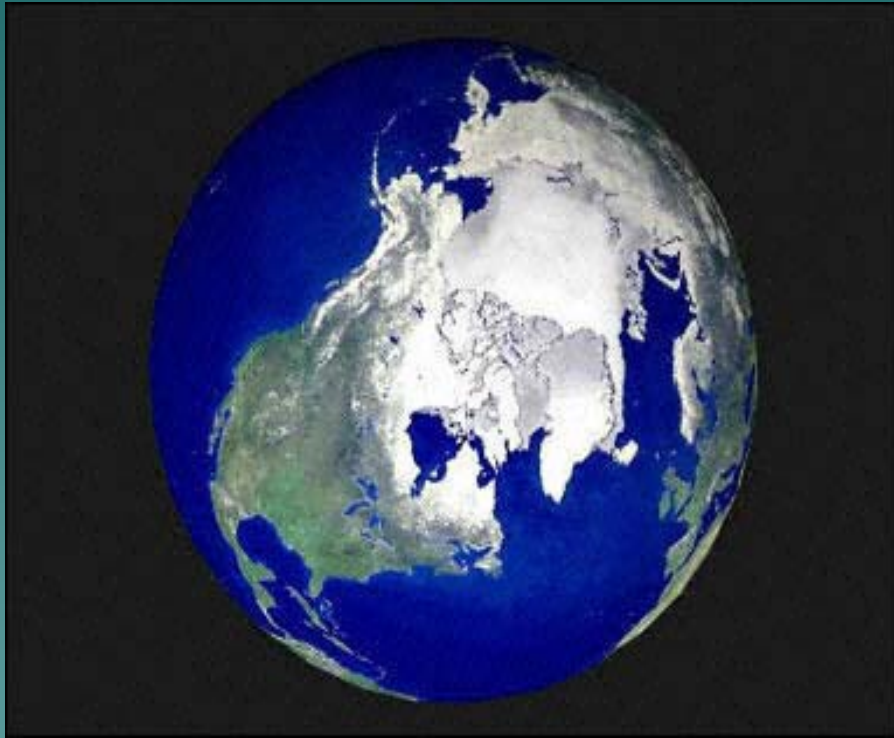


# Greenways & Trails

## People, Pathways & Profits




A Global look at  
Greenways, Trails  
& their benefits

By  
George S. Bellovics  
Landscape Architect

# Greenways & Trails

## People, Pathways & Profits

- ◆ What are Greenways and Trails?
  - ◆ Why are they important?
  - ◆ Where are they found?
  - ◆ Who do they serve?
  - ◆ How can they help?
  - ◆ When can we start?
- 

# What's Your Perception?





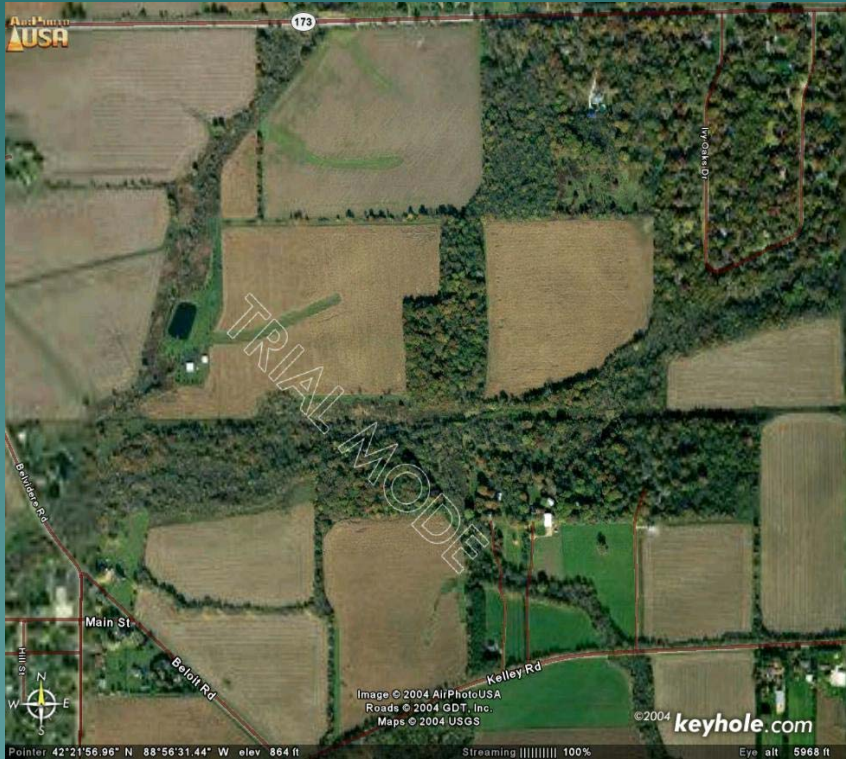


# Remember to keep focus

## Linear success, Parallel tasks



Greenways are distinct in the landscape...



Whether made from streams,  
drainage zones, forest blocks or ...

From railroad rights of way



Greenways come in all shapes and sizes...



Gosh Pokey! Are these all Greenways???


What are Greenways? Simply put, Greenways are corridors of protected open space managed for conservation and/or recreation purposes.

Is this drainage way in a bean field a Greenway?



◆ Yes...

## Definitions, Continued...

- ◆ Greenways often follow natural land or water features, and provide links with Nature Preserves, Parks, Cultural Features and Historic Sites.
  - ◆ Greenways can be publicly owned or Privately owned, or as a result of Public/Private Partnerships.
  - ◆ Some Greenways include Trails, while others do not.
  - ◆ Some Greenways may be primary for recreation and people, while others may be just for wildlife.
- 



Greenways which are planned elements are typically prescriptive.

They have a function which is primary, and benefits which are secondary.



# Rural Roads have a Greenway Capacity Too...



- ❑ Roads and their rights of way are valuable in linking places.
- ❑ Many contain wonderful habitats for plants and animals.
- ❑ Considering these resources in Greenway Plans will expand your ability to make critical connections.











# What's Old is New Again...



- ❑ Railroad Rights of Way, either abandoned or active, should be included in any Greenway Plan.
- ❑ Many times, they are the last remaining areas of native prairie, as well as valuable transportation links.
- ❑ Identifying the right of way as a Greenway will prepare you for a future trail opportunity, since the right of way as a trail becomes no less valuable for transportation.







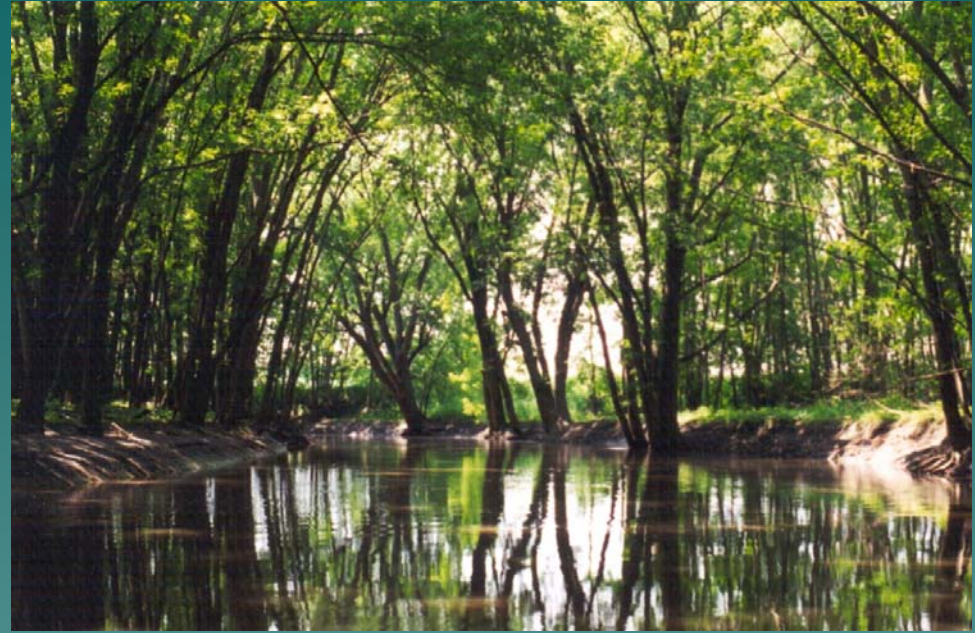








## Don't forget about the water...



- ❑ Stream corridors, and their flood plains are important Greenways in nature.
- ❑ They have recreation potential for canoeing, fishing and birding.
- ❑ The variation in aesthetic character along "Blueways" can be as dramatic as can be found along Greenways.

# For Every Season, Turn, Turn Turn...



- ❑ Take advantage of tourism opportunities in your greenway or trail.
- ❑ Seasonal opportunities to recreate or experience nature's wonders can be found along greenways and trails.
- ❑ The change of seasons are powerful, spiritual events in many people's lives.

# Greenways Planning 101...

## Who do you serve? Who are your users?





## 2008 Participation - Ranked by Total Participation

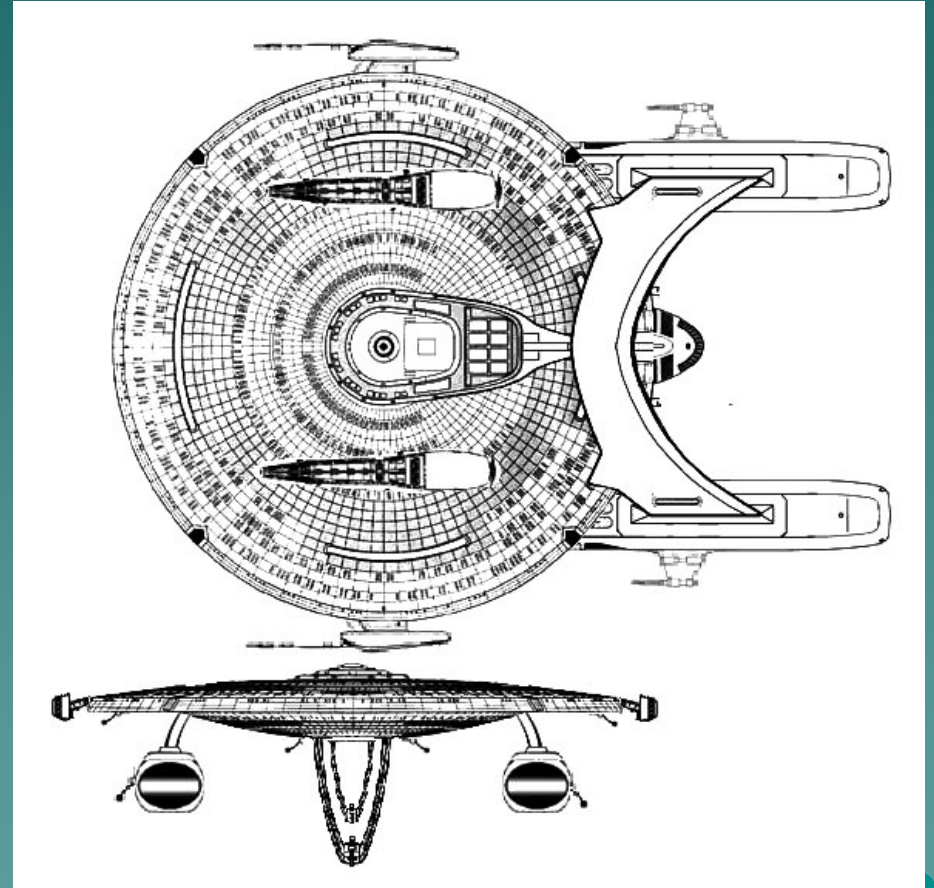
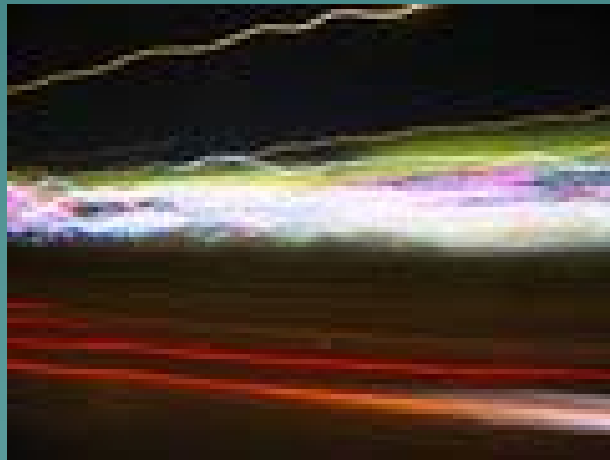
*Participated more than once (in millions)*

*Seven (7) years of age and older*

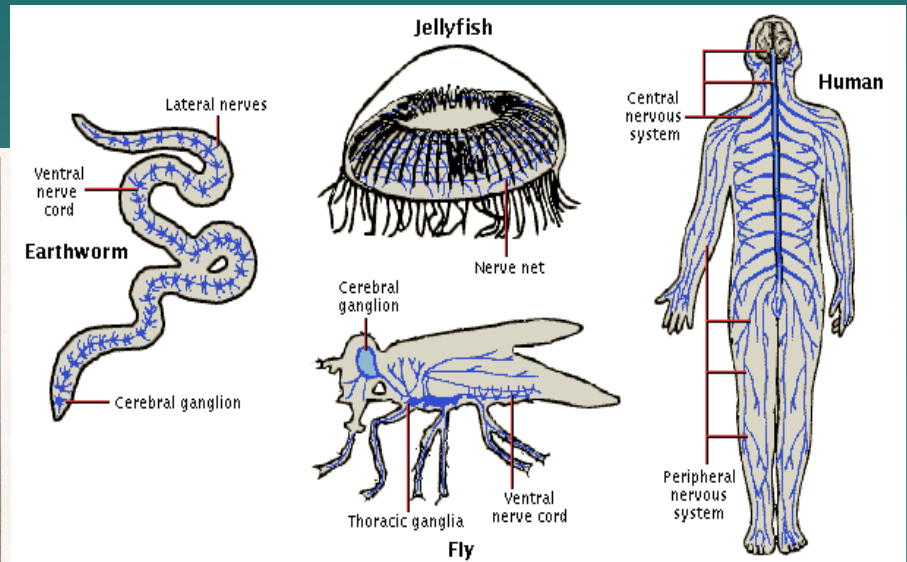
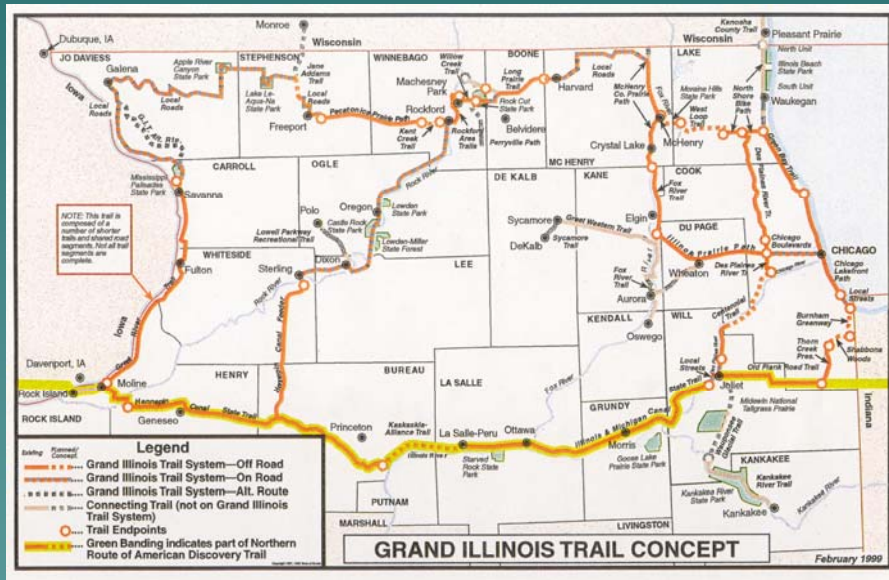
Sport	Percent		Sport	Percent	
	Total	Change		Total	Change
Exercise Walking	96.6	7.6%	Backpack/Wilderness Cam	13.0	-0.1%
Swimming	63.5	6.1%	Softball	12.8	3.6%
Exercising with Equipment	63.0	9.2%	Tennis	12.6	2.9%
Bowling	49.5	5.1%	Volleyball	12.2	1.0%
Camping (vacation/overnite)	49.4	3.8%	Football (tackle)	10.5	-3.7%
Bicycle Riding	44.7	11.4%	Canoeing	10.3	na
Fishing	42.2	2.7%	Mountain Biking (off road)	10.2	9.6%
Workout at Club	39.3	6.8%	Scooter Riding	10.1	-4.6%
Hiking	38.0	10.5%	Skateboarding	9.8	-3.6%
Weight Lifting	37.5	6.6%	In-Line Roller Skating	9.3	-13.1%
Aerobic Exercising	36.2	4.1%	Paintball Games	6.7	-9.9%
Running/Jogging	35.9	18.2%	Skiing (alpine)	6.5	1.9%
Billiards/Pool	31.7	7.4%	Hunting w/Bow & Arrow	6.2	7.5%
Basketball	29.7	5.7%	Snowboarding	5.9	15.6%
Boating, Motor/Power	27.8	-12.7%	Water Skiing	5.6	6.3%
Golf	25.6	2.6%	Target Shooting - Airgun	5.0	-24.8%
Target Shooting	20.3	-3.2%	Muzzleloading	3.4	-6.1%
Hunting with Firearms	18.8	-3.6%	Cheerleading	2.9	na
Yoga	16.0	17.1%	Hockey (ice)	1.9	-7.7%
Soccer	15.5	12.5%	Skiing (cross country)	1.6	-5.2%
Baseball	15.2	8.7%			

\*Percent Change is from 2007

# Trail Systems



# It's the System that works!







# Grand Illinois Trail

## Where its at...

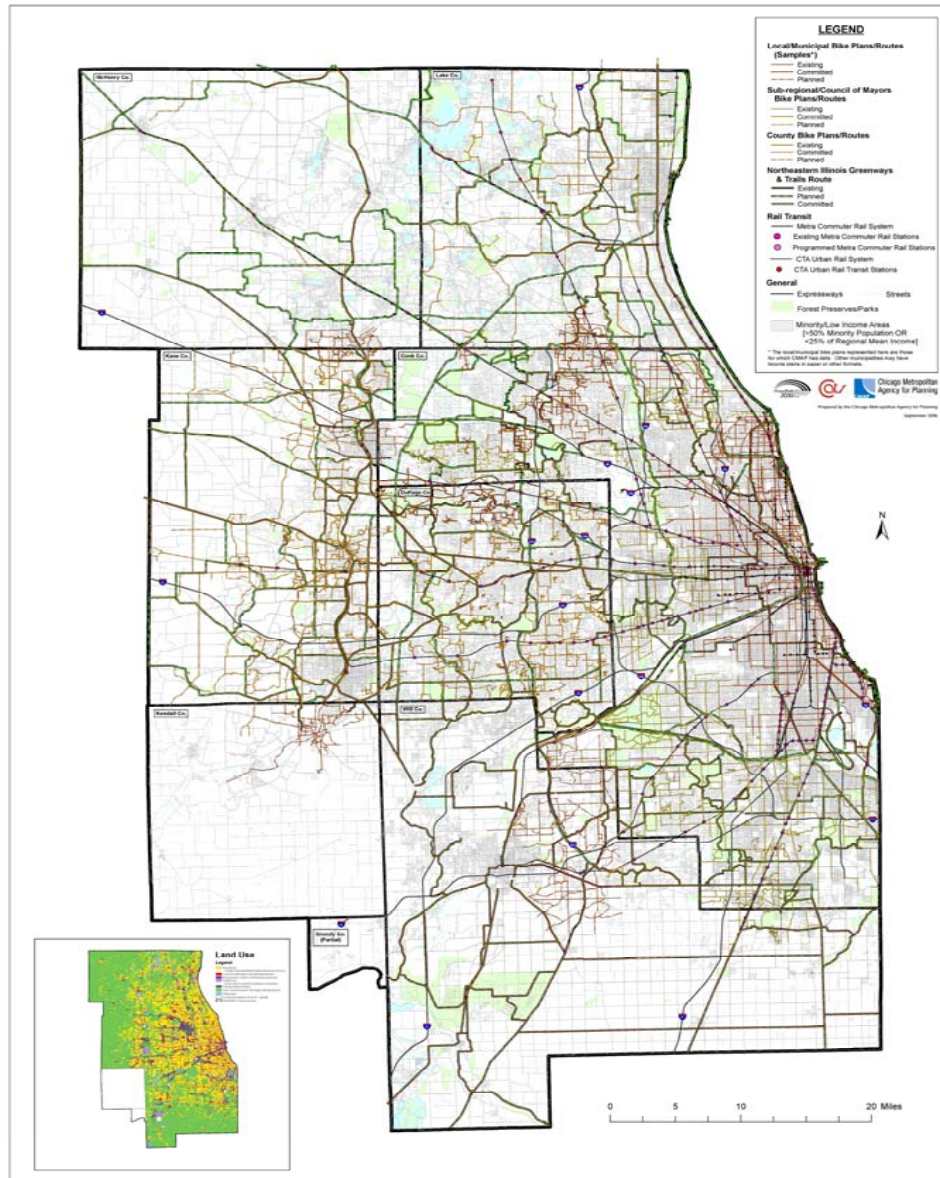


- ◆ Over 320 miles of off-road trails in the planned 500+ mile system of are now in place.
- ◆ Projects are underway for an additional 20 miles of off-road trail and design for an additional 30 miles.
- ◆ About 150 miles of trail will always follow low volume county, township or city streets.





# Strategic Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian System (SRBPS)



# How Do We Get There?







# PLANNING

MUCH WORK REMAINS TO BE DONE BEFORE WE CAN ANNOUNCE  
OUR TOTAL FAILURE TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS.

[www.despair.com](http://www.despair.com)



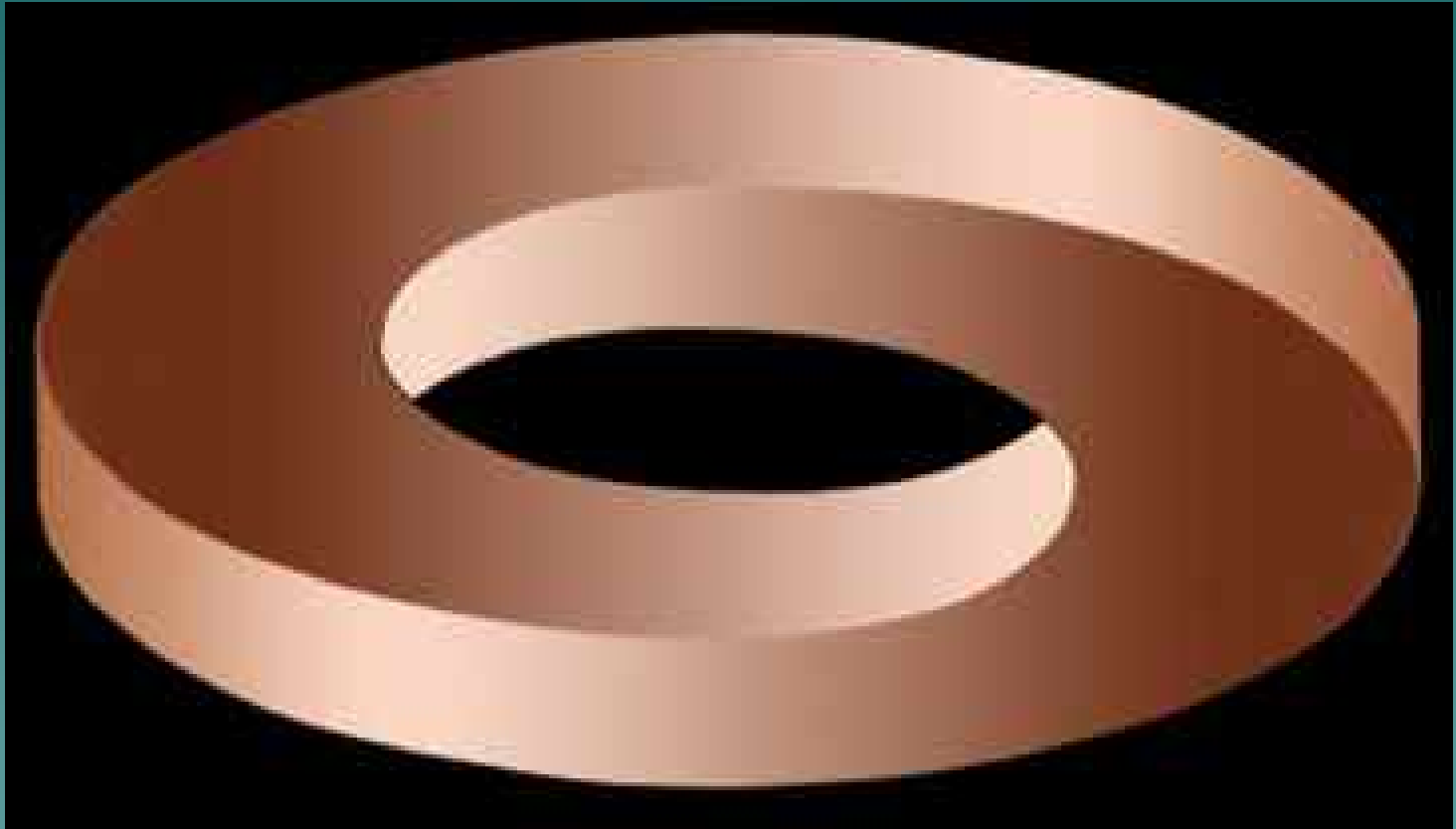
© Alexey Soloviev <http://solo.design.ru>



# CONSULTING

IF YOU'RE NOT A PART OF THE SOLUTION,  
THERE'S GOOD MONEY TO BE MADE IN PROLONGING THE PROBLEM.

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# What's the Goal?



# Strengthening Local Economies

- ◆ Increased property values
- ◆ Stimulated business activity
- ◆ Cost-benefit Analysis





## Increased Property Tax Revenues

An increase in property values generally results in increased property tax revenues for local governments. Many arguments made for park and open space investment claim these acquisitions pay for themselves in a short period of time, due in part to increased property tax revenues from higher values of nearby property. A point to remember, however, is that many jurisdiction's assessments of property values often lag behind market value. Furthermore, in those states which have passed legislation limiting real estate tax increases, such as California's Proposition 13, property tax revenues also lag behind increases in market value.

- A study of the impacts of greenbelts on neighborhood property values in Boulder, Colorado, revealed the aggregate property value for one neighborhood was approximately \$5.4 million greater than if there had been no greenbelt. This results in approximately \$500,000 additional potential property tax revenue annually. The purchase price of the greenbelt was approximately \$1.5 million. Thus, the potential increase in property tax alone could recover the initial cost in only three years. In the study, the authors did note that this potential increase is overstated in part because actual assessments may not fully capture greenbelt benefits (Correll, Lillydahl, and Singell, 1978).



■ In a recent study, *The Impacts of Rail-Trails*, landowners along three rail-trails reported that their proximity to the trails had not adversely affected the desirability or values of their properties. Along the suburban Lafayette/Moraga Trail in California, the majority of the owners felt that the trail would make their properties sell more easily and at increased values. The other two trails studied included the Heritage Trail in eastern Iowa and the St. Marks Trail in Florida. (National Park Service and Pennsylvania State University, 1992)

■ A study completed by the Office of Planning in Seattle, Washington, for the 12 mile Burke-Gilman trail was based upon surveys of homeowners and real estate agents. The survey of real estate agents revealed that property near, but not immediately adjacent to the trail, sells for an average of 6 percent more. The survey of homeowners indicated that approximately 60 percent of those interviewed believed that being adjacent to the trail would either make their home sell for more or have no effect on the selling price (Seattle Office of Planning, 1987).

◆ National Transportation Enhancements Clearinghouse, 2005. Ryan Greene-Roesel

Interstate 4 In Seminole County, Florida isolated two large networks of bicycle and multi-use trails. By building a bicycle/pedestrian bridge over the highway, county officials united two communities and connected the trail networks. As a result, County Commissioner Daryl McLain noted that "property values along the new [connected] trail have already shown increases."



*Home Sales Near Two Massachusetts Trails, Jan. 25, 2006.iv*  
Craig Della Penna.

Municipalities through out the United States have found economic benefits in Bike Trails within close proximity to residential areas.

Homes sales were examined in the seven Massachusetts towns through which the Minuteman Bikeway and Nashua River Rail Trail run.

Statistics on list and selling prices and on days on the market were analyzed. The analysis shows that homes near these rail trails sold at 99.3% of the list price as compared to 98.1% of the list price for other homes sold in these towns.

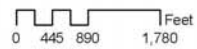
The most significant feature of home sales near rail trails is that these homes sold in an average of 29.3 days as compared to 50.4 days for other homes."



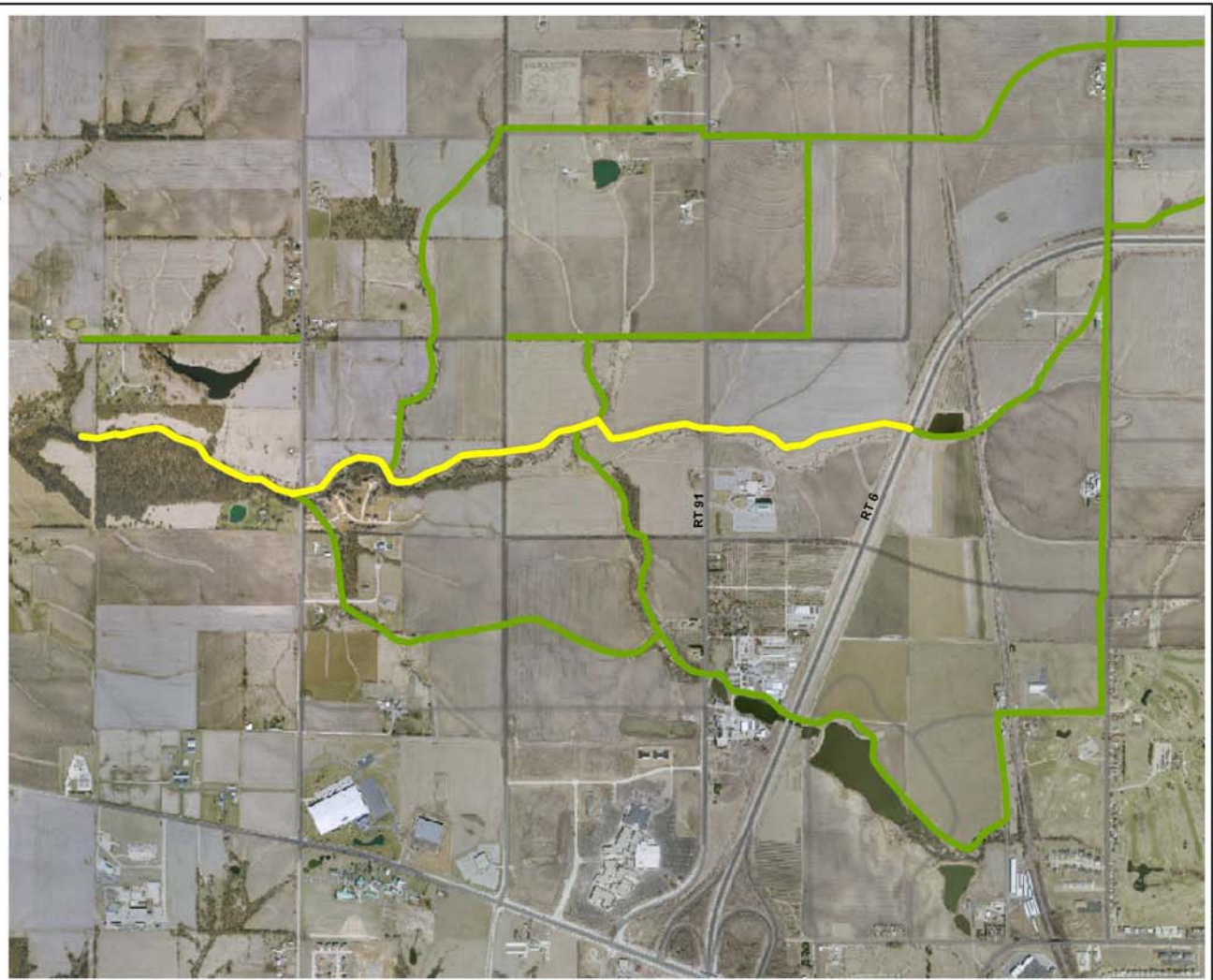
# Fargo Run Trails Concept

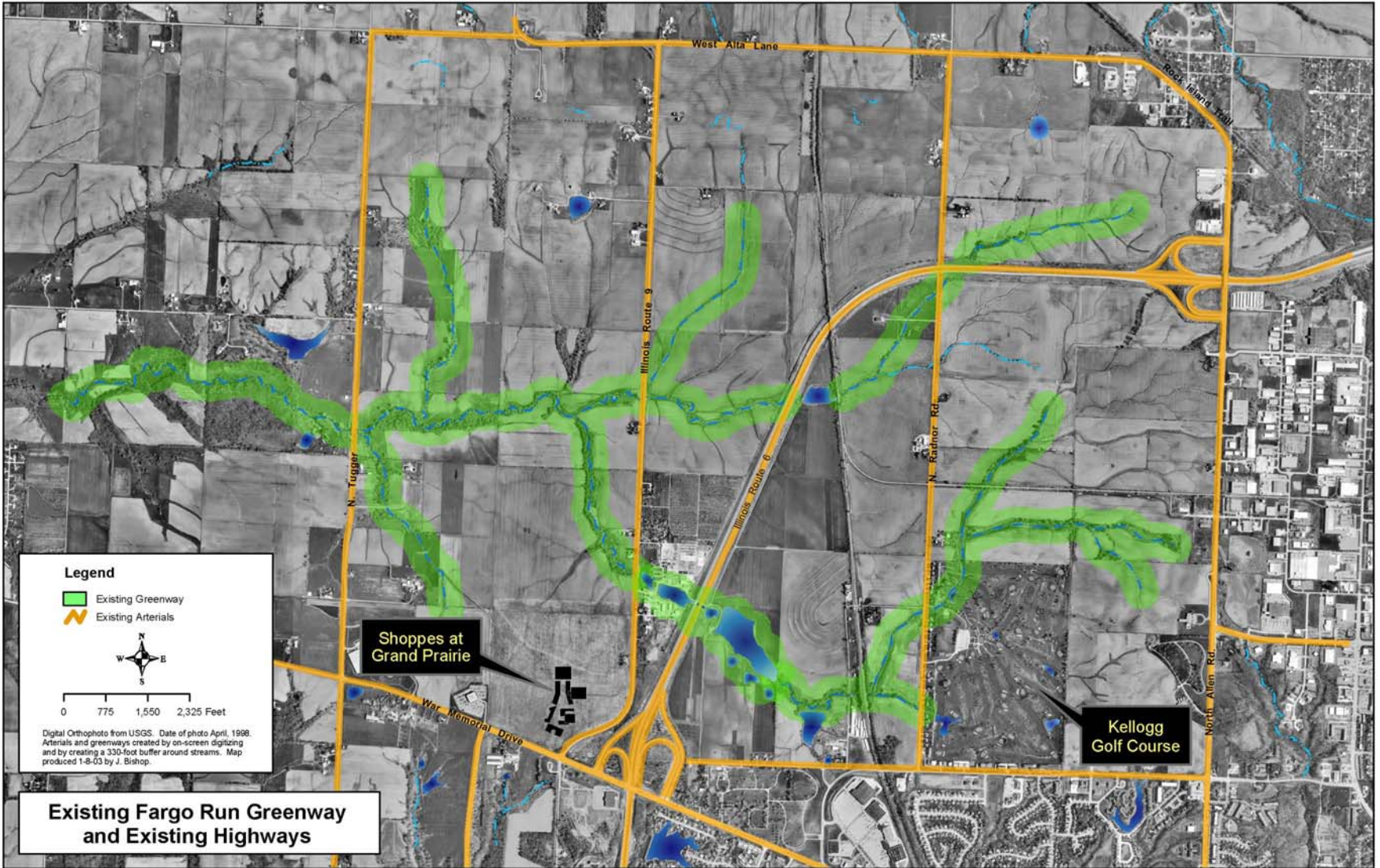
**Legend**

- Primary Trail Corridor
- Secondary Trails
- Principal Arterials
- Proposed Collectors



Tri-County Regional Planning Commission 2004







# Fargo Run

## CONCEPT PLAN GROWTH CELLS 2 & 3

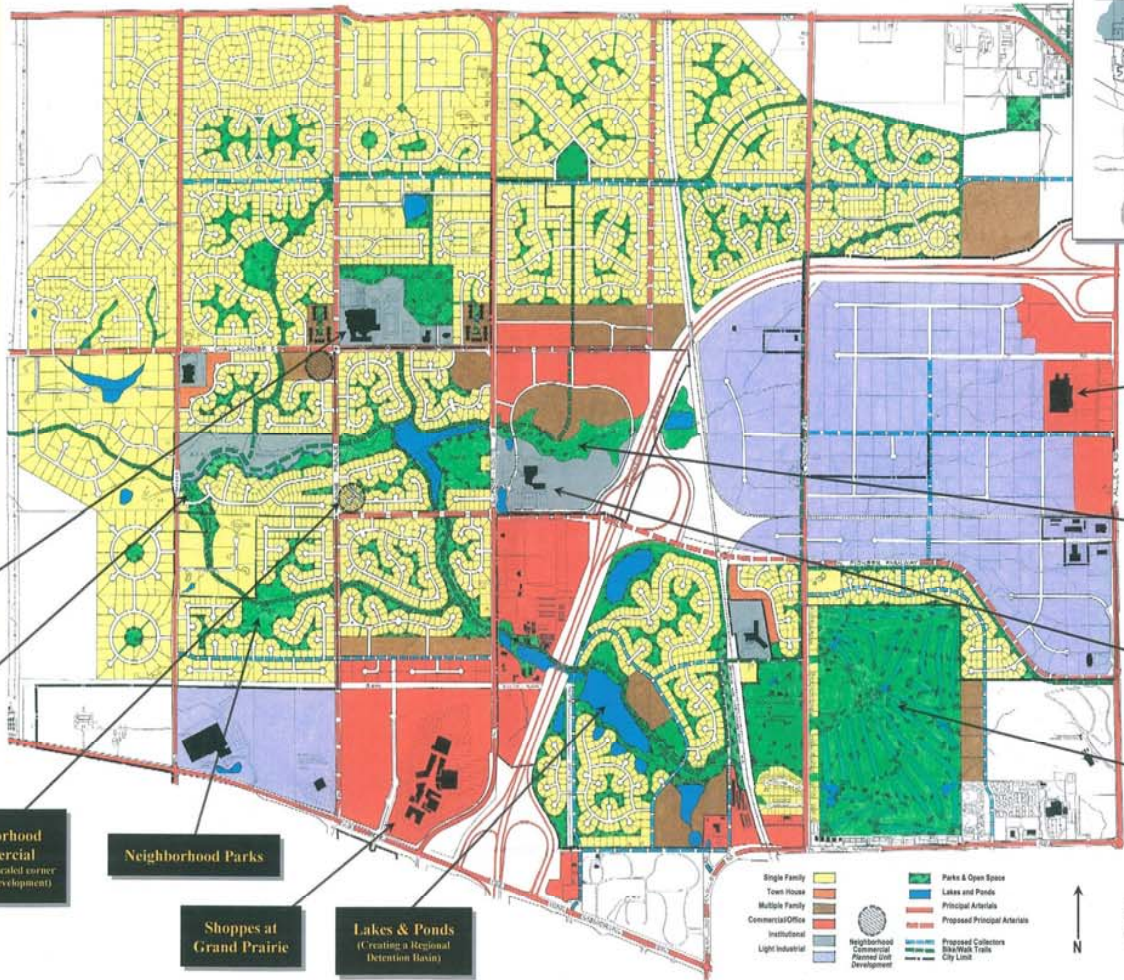
### OVERVIEW

The Fargo Run concept plan presents an opportunity to create a truly unique community within Peoria.

This concept, based upon the Growth Cells 1 two & Three land use plan, provides a template that incorporates ideas utilized throughout the nation to create a higher quality of life within our cities. By incorporating recreational trails, parkland, lakes, schools, and commercial areas with residentially sealed designs, we can create an interconnected community with a quality of design that brings both beauty and function to the Fargo Run area.

The concepts and ideas presented within this plan are intended to create a community where a high quality of life will endure for years to come.

It is rare that a city has an opportunity to design and build a major part of itself from inception. For Peoria, Fargo Run is that opportunity.



**Combined School and Recreation Site**

**Integrated Trail System**  
(Connecting all neighborhoods to the Rock Island Trail)

**Neighborhood Commercial**  
(Residentially sealed corner commercial development)

**Neighborhood Parks**

**Shoppes at Grand Prairie**

**Lakes & Ponds**  
(Creating a Regional Detention Basin)

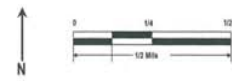
**Wal-Mart Super Center**

**Combined Linear Parks, Trails & Storm Water Drainage**

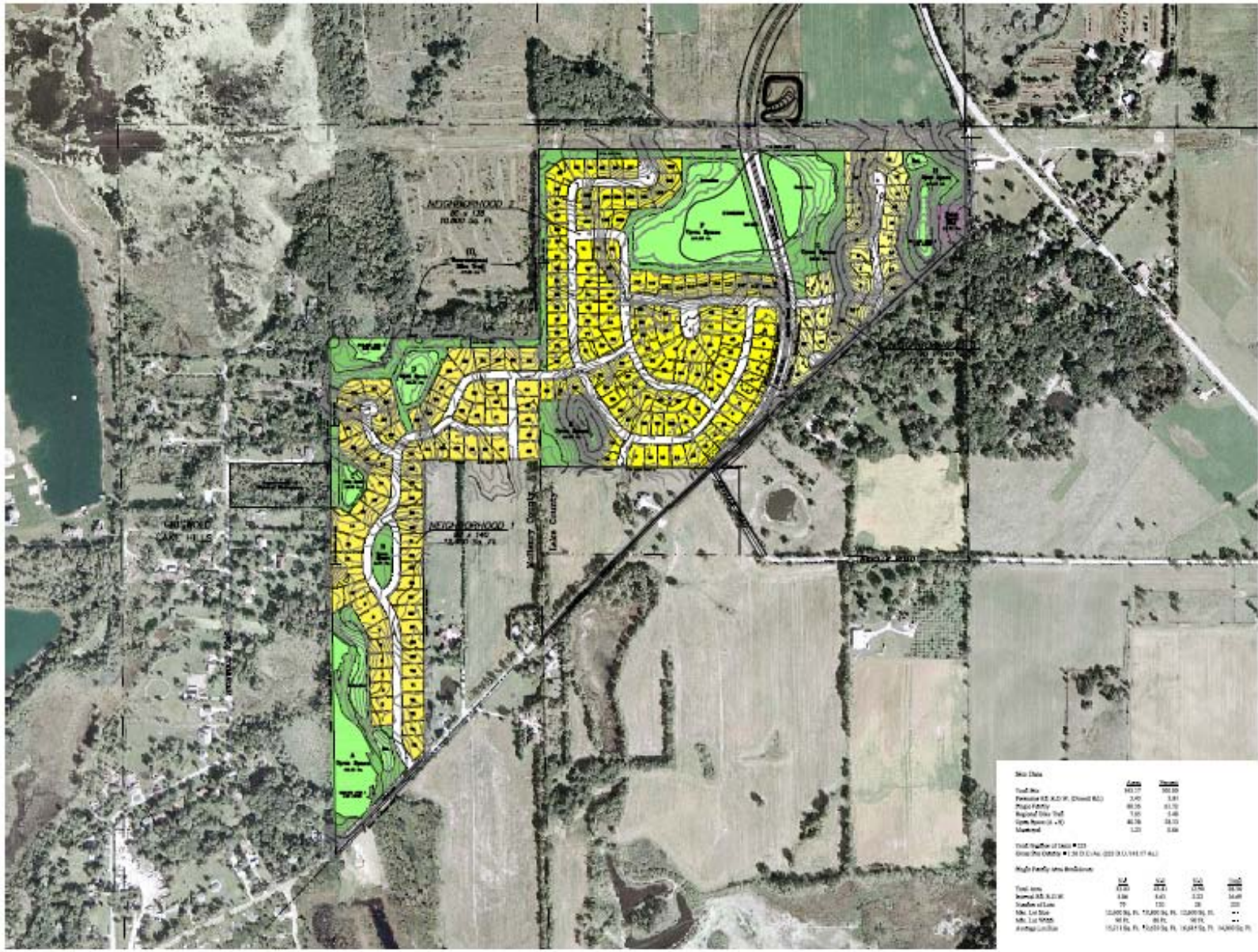
**O.S.F Center for Health**

**Kellogg Golf Course**

Single Family	Parks & Open Space
Town House	Lakes and Ponds
Multiple Family	Principal Arterials
Commercial/Office	Proposed Principal Arterials
Institutional	Proposed Collectors
Light Industrial	State/Local Trails
Neighborhood Commercial	City Limit
Planned Grid Development	







**Site Data**

	Area	Volume
Total Site	183.77	100.00
Residential (R, R2, R3, District R4)	2.40	1.81
Public Facility	80.20	61.70
Regional Open Space	1.00	1.48
Open Space (R)	46.76	36.51
Unimproved	1.21	0.94

Total Population of 1940 \* 2.0  
 3880 (20 Units \* 194) (20 Units \* 194) (17 Units)

**High Density Area Indicators**

	1/4	1/2	3/4	1.0
Total Area	170	283	376	468
Residential (R, R2, R3)	1	1	1	1
Number of Lots	70	100	100	100
Min. Lot Size	12,000 sq. ft.	7,500 sq. ft.	12,000 sq. ft.	12,000 sq. ft.
Min. Lot Area	90 ft.	80 ft.	90 ft.	90 ft.
Average Location	15211 sq. ft.	15211 sq. ft.	15211 sq. ft.	15211 sq. ft.

**JEN LAND DESIGN, INC.**  
 77 HANCOCK AVENUE, SUITE 200, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611  
 312.462.1234  
 WWW.JENLANDDESIGN.COM

**Sketch Plan**  
**FIDLER PROPERTY**  
 Mundelein, Illinois

**B.T. Land, LLC**  
 771 Elgin Avenue, Suite 100  
 Mundelein, Illinois 60060  
 (815) 318-0901






# Prairie Crossing



847-548-5400

**Prairie Crossing**   
847-548-5400 [www.prairiecrossing.com](http://www.prairiecrossing.com)

[www.prairiecrossing.com](http://www.prairiecrossing.com)

# Prairie Crossing

*A Conservation Community*

[Community Overview](#)

[Homes for Sale](#)

[Life at Prairie Crossing](#)

[Station Square Shops](#)

[Homeowners](#)

[Organic Farm](#)

[Charter School](#)

[Byron Colby Barn](#)

[Stable](#)

[Liberty Prairie Reserve](#)

[Institute](#)

[Site Plan](#)

[Guiding Principles](#)

[Transportation](#)

[PC in the News](#)

[Contact or Visit Us](#)



## Welcome to Prairie Crossing

**Energy Star certified condominiums now available** 

Prairie Crossing gets a percentage of its energy from a wind turbine. Find out [how much energy](#) the PCWT is

Prairie Crossing is a critically-acclaimed conservation community that was designed to combine responsible development, the preservation of open land and easy commuting by rail. The community consists of 395 energy-efficient single family homes and condominium residences. The single family homes are sold out, but a limited number of condominiums are still available! Please explore our website for information about the Organic Farm, shops and restaurants, Metra commuter rail service, Charter School, and our restored natural areas, as well as the Guiding Principles underlying the community.



# Making Communities Better Places

- ◆ Increased social interaction
- ◆ Encouraging community pride
- ◆ Preserving what we value
- ◆ Protection against urban sprawl
- ◆ Providing alternative transportation



# A Tale of Someplace USA





- ◆ Between efforts to make bicycling better and improve the public realm in Manhattan, New York City has been making some steps to upgrade boulevard streets for more users — making the center medians of these facilities into usable and attractive public spaces rather than just an area between two directions of traffic.
- ◆ Case in point: Pike Street. The city's Transportation Department has been working to add physically separated bike facilities (or cycle tracks) along the central median in both directions and creating plaza-like public spaces by closing off certain intersections. Plans eventually call for adding trees, benches and gardens to the median promenade, through the Parks Department.
- ◆ Citygarden, just west of the famed Gateway Arch on the Mississippi River, has drawn crowds of people—a cross-section of the city and region's population—from its opening hour onward.....
- ◆ .....For St. Louis, for years so forsaken its downtown had the feel of a big and mostly empty living room, the public's warm embrace of Citygarden caps a remarkable comeback decade which has seen the center city draw 5,000 residents and more than \$4 billion in new investment.



# Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles

- ◆ Increased physical activity
- ◆ Improved access to facilities
- ◆ Opportunities for a variety of activities
- ◆ Inexpensive to join



## **A healthy lifestyle**

More than ten miles of trails, a stable, and a large lake with beach and dock provide opportunities for healthy outdoor exercise. The farm supplies fresh organic vegetables, flowers, and fruits to the community.

Individual garden plots are available at a small cost. Lake Forest Hospital has built a new facility at Prairie Crossing.



*An extensive network of sidewalks and trails make Prairie Crossing a walkable community*

Several findings from the Bureau of Transportation Statistics study indicate a growing concern among Americans with the impact of transportation choices on quality of life—and a willingness to consider bicycling as part of the solution. Half of all Americans (99.0 million people) believe that cars, SUVs, pickups, and vans are the primary cause of air pollution in their communities and 65 percent (135.4 million) are concerned about the level of traffic congestion on the roads in their communities. (They have a right to feel this way: Americans spend 75 minutes a day in their car.) Some 79.1 million (38 percent) of all Americans feel that the availability of bikeways, walking paths, and sidewalks for getting to work, shopping, and recreation is very important in choosing where to live.



# Protecting the Environment

- ◆ Preserving open space by keeping it recreational
- ◆ Improve air quality and water quality
- ◆ Protecting habitat



## Guiding Principles for Prairie Crossing

Ten important principles established by the community's founders have guided Prairie Crossing since its inception. Together, these Guiding Principles provide the framework for a way of life that respects the environment and enables residents to experience a strong connection between community and the land.



*Houses along Levi Baxter Street on a still evening*



*Lake Aldo Leopold supports a variety of native flora and fauna*

### **Environmental protection and enhancement**

Prairie Crossing's land was purchased to safeguard its open spaces. 350 of its acres are legally protected from development. Prairie Crossing is part of the Liberty Prairie Reserve, over 5,000 acres of publicly and privately held land that includes nature and forest preserves, farms and trails. At Prairie Crossing itself, greenways have been constructed and houses placed to protect the environment, native vegetation and wildlife of the Midwest.



According to the Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey, 25 percent of all trips are made within a mile of the home, 40 percent of all trips are within two miles of the home, and 50 percent of the working population commutes five miles or less to work. Yet more than 82 percent of trips five miles or less are made by personal motor vehicle.

According to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) October 2000 Omnibus Household Survey, 41.3 million Americans (20.0 percent) used a bicycle for transportation in the 30 days measured in the survey. Bicycling is the second most preferred form of transportation after the automobile, ahead of public transportation. More than 9.2 million (22.3 percent) of the 41.3 million people who bicycled did so more than ten of the 30 days.

# Preserving our Culture and History

- ◆ Access to heritage and history
- ◆ Connections-to historically and culturally significant facets of a community
- ◆ Historically significant transportation routes











# Illinois Trail Advocates: Understanding Illinois' Public Action Team

- ◆ Illinois Trails Conservancy
- ◆ League of Illinois Bicyclists
- ◆ Chicagoland Bicycle Federation
- ◆ Openlands Project
- ◆ The Nature Conservancy
- ◆ Illinois Paddling Council
- ◆ Illinois Greenways & Trails Council
- ◆ & Many More...





# Lessons Learned:

- ❖ Large projects come from shared ideas and common goals.
- ❖ The overall project is made from smaller parts that rely on connections and destinations.
- ❖ A “work in progress” means what you do have does work.
- ❖ Create “identities” that fit with the “place”.
- ❖ Allow movement; Create access; Encourage involvement...Serve.
- ❖ Continue to evolve, strive to re-invent.

“Greenways & Trails Planning is all about making the Idea into reality...”



◆ Galena River Trail, Galena





Greenways & Trails are already a part of your surroundings. Recognizing how they can be a part of your County, your Community and your life is up to you.



**Illinois Department of Natural Resources:**  
Participating in Trails Through Leadership in  
State & National Programs

