

Village of Bensenville
Board Room
12 South Center Street
DuPage and Cook Counties
Bensenville, IL, 60106

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

March 7, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Moruzzi at 6:30p.m.

ROLL CALL : Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:
Moruzzi, Pisano, Rodriguez, Majeski
Absent: Janowiak, Rowe, Tellez
A quorum was present.

STAFF PRESENT: V. Benham, S. Viger

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS:

The minutes of the Community Development Commission Meeting of February 15, 2016 were presented.

Motion: Commissioner Majeski made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Pisano seconded the motion.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Public Hearing: CDC Case Number 2016-03
Petitioner: Village of Bensenville
Request: Adoption of the Active Transpiration Plan

Motion: Commissioner Majeski made a motion to open CDC Case No. 2016-03. Commissioner Rodriguez seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL : Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:
Moruzzi, Pisano, Rodriguez, Majeski
Absent: Janowiak, Rowe, Tellez
A quorum was present.

Chairman Moruzzi opened the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m.

Chairman Moruzzi held a mass swearing in for those who planned to speak during the Public Hearing.

Village Planner, Victoria Benham, was present and previously sworn in by Chairman Moruzzi. Mrs. Benham stated a Legal Notice was published in the Bensenville Independent on Thursday February 18, 2016. Mrs. Benham stated a certified copy of the Legal Notice is maintained in the CDC file and is available for viewing and inspection at the Community & Economic Development Department during regular business hours.

Mrs. Benham stated in January of 2015, the Village of Bensenville adopted a Comprehensive Plan outlining a number of short and long term goal initiatives. Mrs. Benham stated one of the near-term goals included the development of an Active Transportation Plan to guide the Village in developing a more walkable, bikeable community.

Mrs. Benham stated in December of 2014, Village staff in conjunction with the Bensenville Youth Community Services Coalition (Youth Coalition) initiative "B-Well Bensenville," applied for and was successful in securing a grant from the American Planning Association to begin the development of such a Plan in addition to other items. Mrs. Benham stated the draft version of the Active Transportation Plan outlines a comprehensive set of strategies to ensure that community members can walk, bike, and take transit for any trip. Mrs. Benham stated the plan identifies a holistic approach to achieving this strategy, by recommending infrastructure improvements like bike lanes, pedestrian signals, crosswalks, and sidewalks, as well as programming, education strategies, and policies. Mrs. Benham stated with an eye toward implementation, the plan includes recommendations on which projects to prioritize and possible funding sources to pay for recommendations. Mrs. Benham stated an Active Transportation Plan will allow Bensenville access to more federal funding sources and be more successful in its applications for funding transportation projects. Mrs. Benham stated a key ingredient in Bensenville's Active Transportation plan has been public involvement. Mrs. Benham stated hundreds of community members participated in an online survey, gave input at community events, and attended a community meeting in October. Mrs. Benham stated a B-Well Bensenville Steering Committee which included the Village's engineers, oversaw the process and gave input on Bensenville's unique assets and challenges. Mrs. Benham stated these opinions were factored into the final recommendations to ensure that the community's needs are addressed over time.

Mrs. Benham stated key recommendations in Bensenville's plan include identifying a network of on- and off-street bike routes that enable residents to access key community destinations, like Redmond Park, Blackhawk Middle School, the Metra Station, and the regional bike network. Mrs. Benham stated the proposed Plan identifies the prioritization of sidewalk infill based on proximity to local walking destinations, traffic safety, and community need. Mrs. Benham stated the Plan includes resources and strategies for developing programs and policies that will encourage more people to walk and bike, and educate all on safe travel behaviors for all modes of transportation.

Heather Schady, Senior Transportation Planner of Active Transportation Alliance, was present and previously sworn in by Chairman Moruzzi. Ms. Schady presented a power point to the Commission. The power point has been attached to the minutes as "Exhibit A." Ms. Schady presented a project overview for complete streets policy and active transportation plan. Ms. Schady stated the more people biking and walking in town provide better economic opportunity for the town. Ms. Schady stated incomplete streets were designed to focus on moving as many cars as quickly as possible through intersections and are not ideal for those who chose to bike. Ms. Schady stated a community that is dedicated to complete streets shows a commitment to accommodate all users of the road in all future roadway projects whenever possible. Ms. Schady shared other communities that have complete street policies throughout our region. Ms. Schady shared Bensenville's complete street policy that will highlight emphasizing cost, documenting expectations, outlining approval process, establishing performance measures and referencing active transportation plan. Ms. Schady stated in order to create an active transportation plan for Bensenville, focus needs to be on identifying priorities, researching and analyzing, gathering input and synthesizing information. Ms. Schady shared finding from the Steering Committee which consisted of organization throughout Bensenville and Bensenville Residents during the planning process. Ms. Schady stated they met with over two hundred Residents during Village events for their feedback. Ms. Schady reviewed the vision for active transportation in Bensenville based off the findings from the Steering Committee and Residents. Ms. Schady stated active transportation plan goals consist of: developing a network, identifying tools, creating policies and programs, and implementing recommendations. Ms. Schady stated the active transportation plan focuses on a bike network and a pedestrian network. Ms. Schady shared a review of the potential programs and policies along with the implantation of the program.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked how the chart implantation priorities were graded. Ms. Schady stated it is a multi-step implantation based off the Village's economic plan and the demographic in Bensenville.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked how long the plan would take to implement. Ms. Schady stated the plan would take close to ten years to implement.

Commissioner Majeski stated he believes the biggest issue Bensenville has is that there are no walkways that allow students to get to Johnson School safely. Ms. Schady stated at this time, she does not have current crash data from IDOT other than from 2013.

Commissioner Majeski stated the Village also faces challenge for Residents to safely cross York Road.

Chairman Moruzzi stated there should be no parking allowed on Hillside Drive if the plans allow for the street to be shared with a bike path. Mrs. Benham stated that matter has been discussed by Public Works Staff during their CIP process and will be addressed during implantation.

Chairman Moruzzi asked if bus routes are highlighted. Ms. Schady stated that PACE has routes provided in Bensenville and have bike racks on the buses for bike users.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked if the Metra station was highlighted in the report. Mrs. Benham confirmed the Metra Station is highlighted and a bike to Metra mailing is currently being designed.

Chairman Moruzzi asked if there was a plan for bike racks in Bensenville. Mrs. Benham stated there are several grant opportunities that are currently being worked on.

Public Comment:

Chairman Moruzzi asked if there was any member of the Public that would like to speak in regards to CDC Case No. 2016-03.

Tom Early – 4N400 Church Road

Mr. Early was present and previously sworn in by Chairman Moruzzi. Mr. Early asked for clarification on the plans that allow for the connection to Wood Dale. Ms. Schady stated the plans were confirmed from the 2014 DuPage master plan.

Mr. Early also asked if the Committee considered using the north side of 3rd Avenue to connect to Wood Dale Road. Mrs. Benham stated the plans have not been finalized and that the Committee will review all concepts.

Mrs. Benham reviewed the Village Staff Report and stated Staff recommends the approval of the proposed active transportation plan.

Paul De Michele – 17W275 Rodeck Lane

Mr. De Michele asked for clarification of parking requirements on page 27 of the report. Mrs. Benham stated the report is just a recommendation to consider and not finalized.

Mr. De Michele asked if there will be a bike path along Grand Avenue with the recent approval of a hotel that allows for fifteen feet of right away. Mrs. Benham stated a bike path along Grand Avenue is still being considered.

Chairman Moruzzi asked that Staff consider reviewing speed limits on compressed streets and no parking signs on the side of the street that fire hydrants are located on.

Motion: Commissioner Pisano made a motion to close CDC Case No. 2016-03. Commissioner Majeski seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Moruzzi, Pisano, Rodriguez, Majeski

Nays: None

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Moruzzi closed the Public Hearing for CDC Case No. 2016-03 at 7:20 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to approve the active transportation plan as presented. Chairman Moruzzi seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Moruzzi, Pisano, Rodriguez, Majeski

Nays: None

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Public Hearing: CDC Case Number 2016-04
Petitioner: Village of Bensenville
Request: Adoption of the Complete Streets Policy

Motion: Commissioner Majeski made a motion to open CDC Case No. 2016-04. Commissioner Pisano seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL : Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:
Moruzzi, Pisano, Rodriguez, Majeski
Absent: Janowiak, Rowe, Tellez
A quorum was present.

Chairman Moruzzi opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.

Village Planner, Victoria Benham, was present and previously sworn in by Chairman Moruzzi. Mrs. Benham stated a Legal Notice was published in the Bensenville Independent on Thursday February 18, 2016. Mrs. Benham stated a certified copy of the Legal Notice is maintained in the CDC file and is available for viewing and inspection at the Community & Economic Development Department during regular business hours.

Mrs. Benham stated in December of 2014, Village staff in conjunction with the Bensenville Youth Community Services Coalition (Youth Coalition) initiative "B-Well Bensenville," applied for and was successful in securing a grant from the American Planning Association to begin the development of a Complete Streets Policy to complement the Active Transportation Plan.

Mrs. Benham stated a "Complete Street" is one that can be safely crossed, traveled upon and alongside by all users of the roadway regardless of their age, ability or travel mode. A Complete Streets Policy is a formalized commitment by the Village to accommodate all users of the roadways, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and motorists in all new transportation projects whenever appropriate, including the design of new facilities and the improvement and maintenance of existing facilities.

Mrs. Benham stated a Complete Streets Policy offers an alternative approach to roadway design, whereby planning and engineering staff begin by considering the needs of all people and modes of transportation using a roadway, and then design from there. Traditionally, transportation engineers have focused on making sure that cars can move safely and efficiently along roads and across intersections. While this approach works well for drivers, the most vulnerable users of the road- like pedestrians, cyclists, and even transit users- needs often aren't met, and walking, biking, and taking the bus can feel unsafe.

Mrs. Benham stated it is important to note that not every Complete Street needs a bike lane or a sidewalk, but the goal is to create a network of streets and sidewalks that get each user type safely to their destination. Mrs. Benham stated a Complete Streets Policy provides a flexible framework for doing so.

Mrs. Benham stated to help ensure the best results in the development and acceptance of the Policy, Bensenville established a Steering Committee including members from Du Page County, Village engineers and the various taxing bodies within the Village. Mrs. Benham stated the Steering Committee weighed-in on the tone set and priorities included in the Complete Streets Policy presented.

Mrs. Benham stated as Bensenville continues to build sidewalks, multi-use paths, and on-street bike facilities, the Policy will help serve as a reminder to Village staff, private developers, elected officials, and the general public that Bensenville has committed to a Complete Streets approach.

Mrs. Benham stated the intent of the proposed Complete Streets Policy is to improve quality of life for residents. This would be accomplished through cost savings associated with transportation, creation of a more walkable neighborhood, and improved health. Currently there are 30 complete streets policies enacted throughout Illinois and the adoption of the proposed policy for Bensenville would make the 31st.

There were no questions from the Commission.

Public Comment:

Chairman Moruzzi asked if there was any member of the Public that would like to speak in regards to CDC Case No. 2016-04. There were none.

Mrs. Benham reviewed the Village Staff Report and stated Staff recommends the approval of the proposed Complete Streets Policy.

Chairman Moruzzi asked how Staff plans to maintain the striping on streets and how the Village plans to “police” the integrity of the safe zones and bike paths. Mrs. Benham stated Public Works has been helpful during this process and they highlight these needs during their CIP every year.

Scott Viger, Director of Community and Economic Development, was present and previously sworn in by Chairman Moruzzi. Mr. Viger stated Chairman Moruzzi’s request all depends on budget moving forward.

Commissioner Pisano asked where skateboards fall into these plans. Mrs. Benham stated it all depends on local policies and that Staff will have to review the policies and incorporated into the overall plan.

Tom Early – 4N400 Church Road

Mr. Early was present and previously sworn in by Chairman Moruzzi. Mr. Early asked for clarification of the proposed ordinance. Mrs. Benham stated the ordinance allows for handicap accessibility for all users and that ADA compliance is addressed in the report.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked that when the Village moves forward with these plans to include stakeholders for their input since these changes will effect street parking in their area.

Motion: Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion to close CDC Case No. 2016-04. Chairman Moruzzi seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Moruzzi, Pisano, Rodriguez, Majeski

Nays: None

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Moruzzi closed the Public Hearing for CDC Case No. 2016-04 at 7:34 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Majeski made a motion to approve the complete streets policy as presented. Commissioner Pisano seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Moruzzi, Pisano, Rodriguez, Majeski

Nays: None

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Report from Community Development

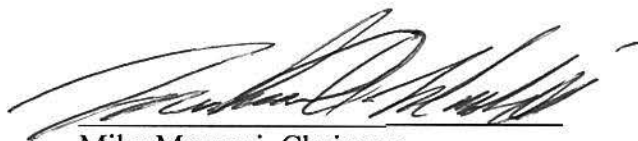
Mrs. Benham reviewed both recent CDC cases along with upcoming cases.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Community Development Commission, Commissioner Majeski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Rodriguez seconded the motion.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.



Mike Moruzzi, Chairman
Community Development Commission

Bensenville Active Transportation Plan & Complete Streets Policy

Presented by Heather Schady, senior transportation planner

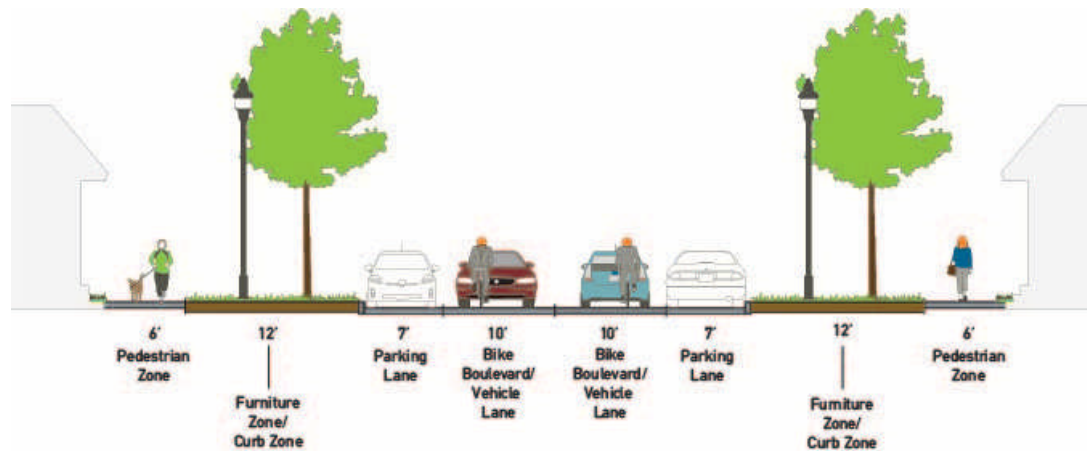


Chicagoland's voice for better biking, walking and transit.

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Project Overview

- Complete Streets Policy
- Active Transportation Plan





Active transportation matters

- Health
- Safety
- Transportation
- Connectivity
- Social
- Economic
- Environmental

Incomplete Streets

Focus on moving as many cars as quickly as possible through intersections.



Complete Streets

A commitment to accommodate all users of the road in all future roadway projects whenever possible.



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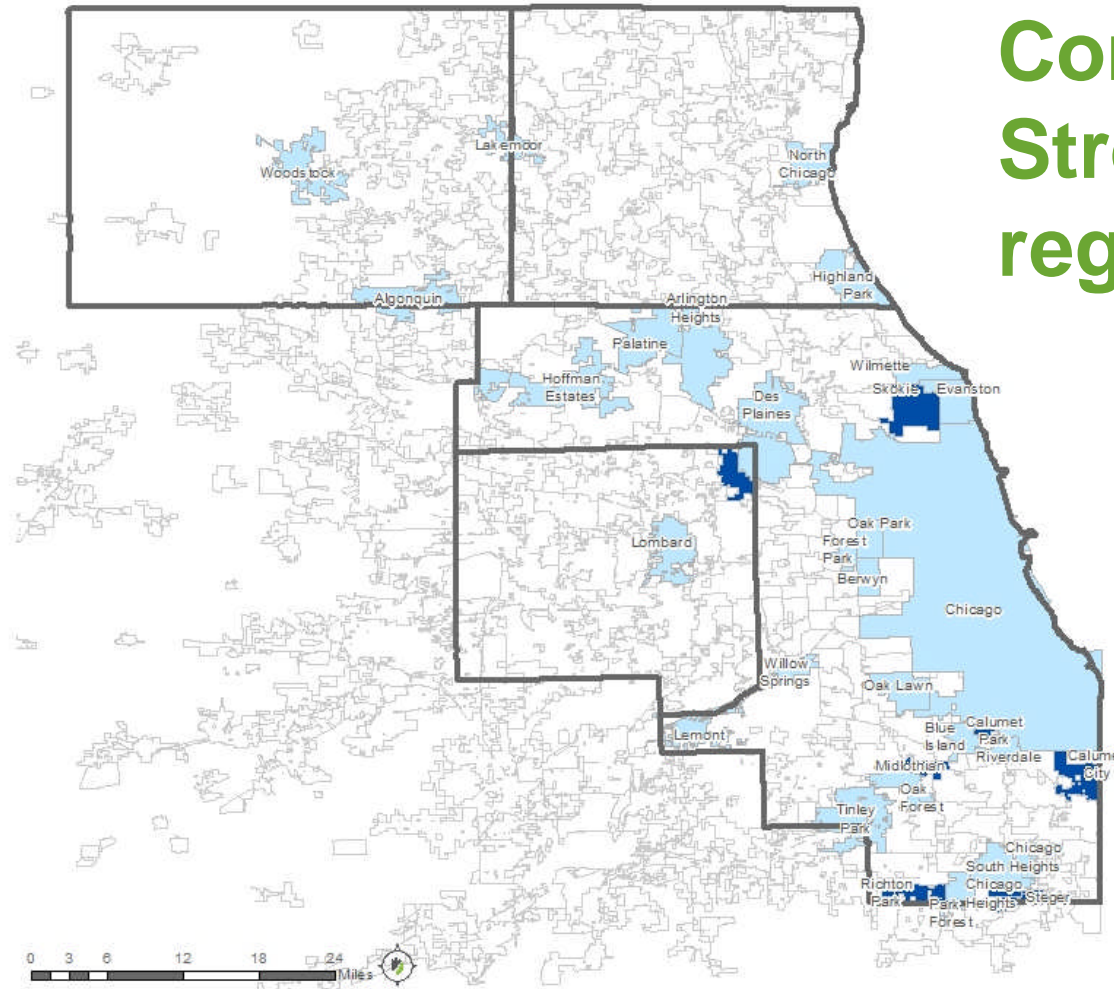


Safe and convenient for everyone!





Complete Streets in our region



- At least 30 communities with policies
- 8 communities developing policies
- 3 counties with policies
- State policy

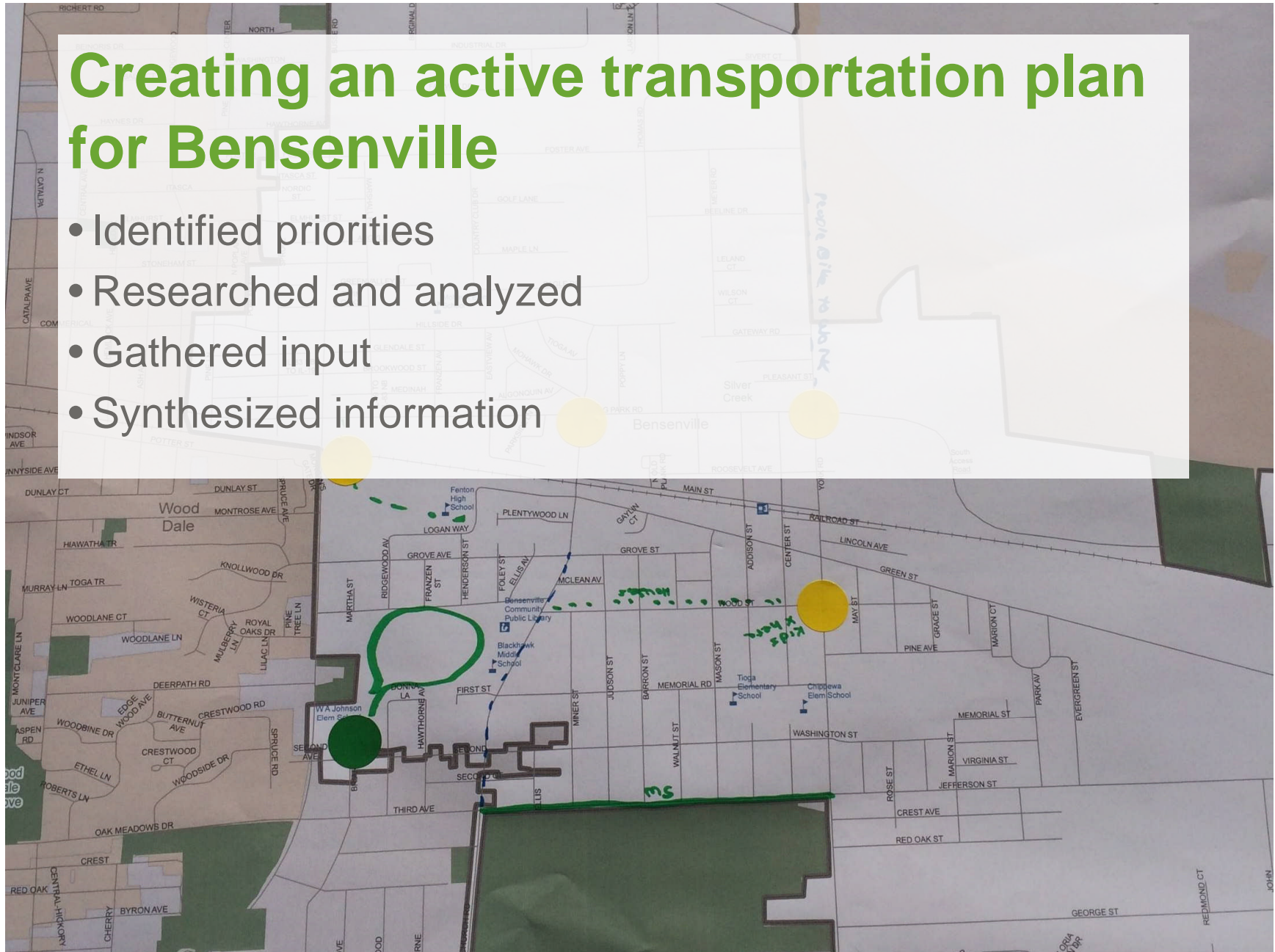
Bensenville's Complete Streets Policy

- Emphasizes cost-effective approach
- Documents exceptions
- Outlines approval process
- Establishes performance measures
- References plans



Creating an active transportation plan for Bensenville

- Identified priorities
- Researched and analyzed
- Gathered input
- Synthesized information



Active Transportation Plan Steering Committee

- Village of Bensenville
- DuPage County Division of Transportation
- DuPage County Health Department
- Bensenville Park District
- Bensenville Chamber of Commerce
- Bensenville Police Department
- Fenton High School
- Bensenville School District 2
- Bensenville Community Public Library

With support from



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Steering Committee Priorities

- Create a bike network
- Connect to regional trails
- Create safe routes to destinations
- Increase biking to work
- Address needs of senior population
- Teach bike safety at schools



Community Input

More than 200 residents and stakeholders gave feedback

- Music in the Park
- Walkathon
- Community meeting
- Online survey



What residents want

- Sidewalk infill
- Connections to Salt Creek Trail
- Build bicycle facilities



Vision for Active Transportation

The Village of Bensenville strives to foster a spirit of active living in all of its residents through the planning, design, and implementation of an active transportation network. By improving transportation options for all residents to local and regional destinations Bensenville will help residents lead a healthier lifestyle, improve their quality of life, and enable them to access local and regional destinations on foot or by bike.



Active Transportation Plan Goals

Develop a network

Identify a robust network of streets and trails that can be enhanced through infrastructure improvements to prioritize the use of active transportation and facilitate a healthier built environment.

Identify tools

Develop a comprehensive list of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements necessary to create a complete active transportation network

Create policies and programs

Create a list of health-focused policies and programs to be implemented that facilitate and support the use of active transportation in Bensenville.

Implement recommendations

Construct a framework for implementing the plan that addresses project cost, complexity, partners, and phasing.

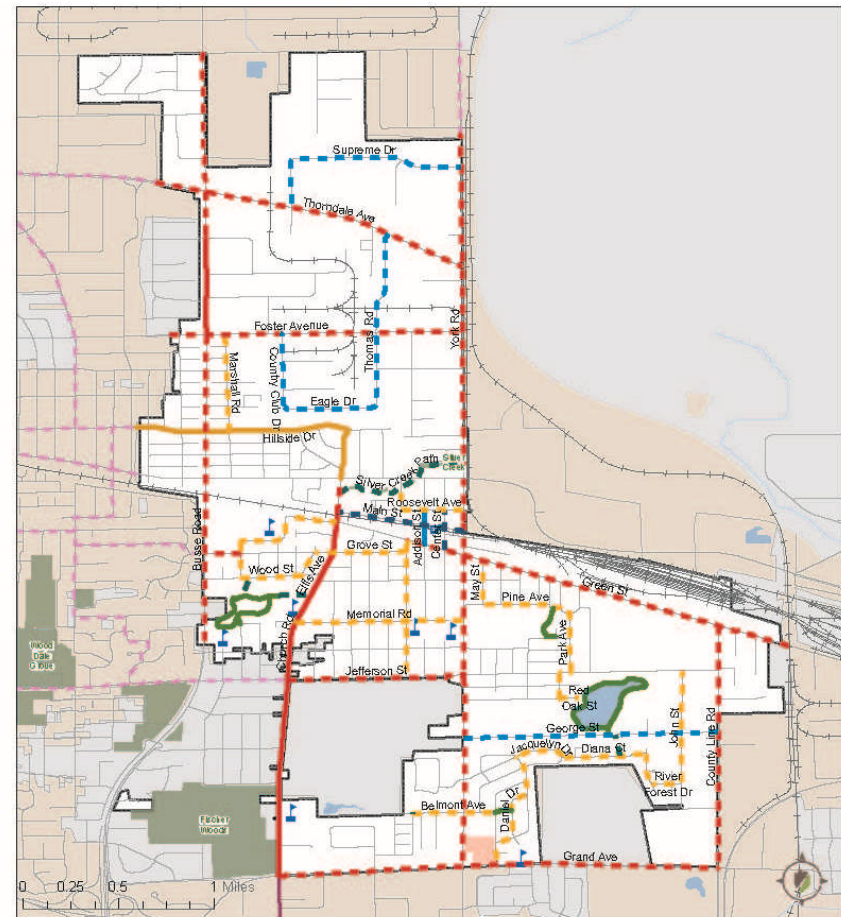


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Bike Network

- Context sensitive recommendations
- Ties into regional network
- Accounts for future plans

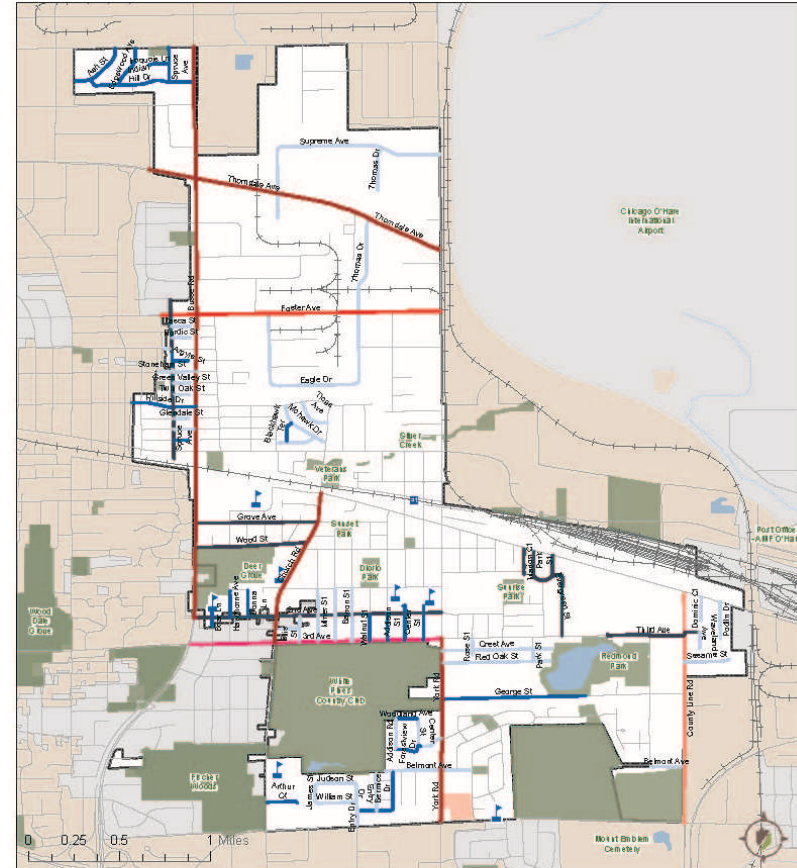


Bike Network Recommendations



Pedestrian Network

- Identifies and prioritizes sidewalk gaps
- Prioritizes areas with high need and high demand



Sidewalk Gap Prioritization

- High, Shared Use Path
- Medium, Shared Use Path
- Low, Shared Use Path
- High, Sidewalk
- Medium, Sidewalk
- Low, Sidewalk
- Low, Sidewalk/Sidepath

Tools

Bike Boulevards



Marked Shared Lane



Tools, continued

Bike Lanes



Multi-Use Path



Tools, continued



Countdown signals
Refuge islands
RRFBs

Programs & Policies

- Earn a bike
- Youth education
- Family ride
- Law enforcement
- Snow removal policy
- Bike parking ordinance



Implementation

Turn the plan into reality!

- Oversight and monitoring
- Pursue grant funding
- Coordinate with other agencies



Heather Schady

Transportation Planner

Active Transportation Alliance

heather@activetrans.org



**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
ALLIANCE**