



Community Development Department

NEWS RELEASE

St. Croix County to Hold Open Houses for Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Project

For Immediate Release: August 10, 2016

Contact: Brett Budrow, Planning & Land Information Administrator

Phone: 715-386-4678 Email: brett.budrow@co.saint-croix.wi.us

1101 Carmichael Rd, Hudson, WI 54016

Expanding opportunities for biking and walking for transportation and recreation countywide

St. Croix County will hold two open houses on consecutive evenings to present materials and gather input for the County's Comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Project. The open houses are Monday, August 29th at the St. Joseph Town Hall, 1337 CTH V, Hudson and Tuesday, August 30th at the St. Croix County Baldwin Ag Center, 1960 8th Ave. Suite 140, Baldwin. At the open houses, county staff along with members of the consultant team (which consists of Toole Design Group and West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission) will be present to answer questions, review maps and gather feedback regarding recommendations for trails and bikeways throughout the county. Plan network maps, bikeway and trail facility types, vision and goals, and other plan information will be available for review and discussion during the open house or prior to the open house on the county's webpage, www.sccwi.us/bikepedplan. During the open house, the public will be able view materials and interact one-on-one with county and consultant staff from 6-8 p.m. Citizen input is essential to the plan; from public opinion surveys to workshops and open houses. Coordination between citizens, advocacy groups, local governments, and the County will be critical to creating a successful plan and then implementing it.

St. Croix County received a \$120,000 Wisconsin DOT Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant to fund the creation of the comprehensive countywide bike and pedestrian plan. This highly competitive grant program provides an 80% grant with a 20% local cash match. The 20% or \$30,000 local match is being funded by St. Croix River Crossing Bridge Growth Mitigation Funding. The St. Croix River Crossing Bridge will provide a safer, more reliable river crossing that includes a four-lane bridge, new roadway approaches on both sides of the river, historic and environmental mitigation, and the conversion of the existing Historic Stillwater Lift Bridge to a bike and pedestrian facility. Once converted to a bike and pedestrian facility the Stillwater Lift Bridge and the new River Crossing Bridge, with a separated bike and pedestrian lane, will be part of the St. Croix River Crossing Trail which will connect Wisconsin and Minnesota creating a 4.7 mile bike and pedestrian loop trail. Creating connections from the River Crossing Trail to Hudson, Somerset and New Richmond, Willow River State Park, and Polk County to the north will be priorities of the planning process. The

completion of the comprehensive bike and pedestrian plan will provide the county and its municipalities the necessary tools and guidelines to implement priority bike and pedestrian trail projects and apply for funding to create these connections and improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the county.

The comprehensive bike and pedestrian plan is anticipated to be completed in December 2016. For more information regarding this project go to the project website at www.sccwi.us/bikepedplan.

Information is also available by contacting the Community Development Department at: 715-386-4680, or email at: cdd@co.saint-croix.wi.us.



www.sccwi.us/bikepedplan