

From: Trane, Andrea
Sent: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:13 PM
To: Washtock, Linzi
Subject: Fwd: CIP comments Item 856 and Item 857

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From: Karen Acker <kacker7503@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:07:47 PM
To: Trane, Andrea <tranea@cityoflacrosse.org>
Subject: CIP comments Item 856 and Item 857

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To Members of the City Plan Commission:

Thank you for taking comments on the Capital Improvement Projects budget.

I wish to express my support for Item 856, Cottonwood Trail Culvert Replacement; and Item 857, Grand Crossing Trail Reconstruction, and I urge your support for these items.

As you are aware the La Crosse River marsh is highly valued by La Crosse residents for its environmental services and recreational opportunities. These two Parks Department projects will improve movement of water and people - how great is that? :)

Quite a lot of water gets impounded in the "east cell" of the marsh as movement through two culverts on the Cottonwood Trail is non-existent or poor. Water flow from east to west is almost entirely handled by the box culvert near the trailhead. This is inadequate, particularly during high water events, of which there have been many in recent years. Funding to replace the non-functioning culverts is necessary and important for the hydrology of the marsh.

The Grand Crossing Trail is closed to commuters and recreational users much too often due to washouts of the "spillway," which can occur even if we don't have a major flood event. A heavy rainstorm lasting several hours can close the trail. The Grand Crossing Trail Reconstruction project will improve this trail, reducing the frequency of closures due to deep water pooled on the spillway. Congratulations to the Parks Department for winning a significant (\$625,000) DOT/ Transportation Alternatives Project grant to fund most of this project! This is an important project, and the balance of needed funds is worthy of budget support.

Sincerely,
Karen Acker

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La Crosse