

OFFICE OF
CITY ENGINEER

CITY HALL
400 LA CROSSE ST
LA CROSSE WI 54601-3396
(608) 789-7505

July 13th, 2015

RE: Hixton Trail access route and proposed construction of sidewalk on Milson Court.

Dear Resident:

On Monday, March 2nd the Board of Public Works discussed the implementation of sidewalks as part of the Complete Streets work being done throughout the city. Much discussion was had on the impact that future trails leading to Hixton Park might have on the need for a sidewalk along Milson Court, since the users of this sidewalk logical destination is Hixton Forest. The discussion included the types of users and the possibility of limited parking and an on-street bike lane as an alternate to sidewalks. Thus, the Board directed the Park and Recreation Department and Engineering Department to work together to develop option for a long term solution to connecting the Hixton Forest Trails into the rest of the city sidewalk system, and to bring these plans back to the Board of Public Works before the board would decide how to address sidewalks along Milson Court.

Attached find a map with several possible trail routes that have been developed as options to address future access to Hixton Park, as prepared in response to that request by the Board. No specific recommendation for any one option is being made by staff at this time.

A second Public Information Meeting and Listening Session to provide information and gather feedback about these trail options and the proposed sidewalk project along Milson Court set for July 27th was canceled and has now been rescheduled. The meeting is being held in front of the Board of Public Works on:

Tuesday, September 8th, 2015, starting at 9:00 A.M.
City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room
400 La Crosse Street

This is your time to learn more about the project and to express your ideas or concerns. The proposed routes and the implication of these route options on the proposed sidewalk along Milson Court will be discussed. Opinions on the trail options, the sidewalk, and any additional suggestions are welcome.

Respectful, constructive dialog is being sought; however, if you are unable to attend you can still submit a written statement to be read aloud at the meeting. Please send your letter to me by Sept. 4th.

Sincerely,

Bernard Lenz
Asst. City Engineer (608) 789-7364
Engineering Department

Cc: Council Members Swantz and Seaquist- BPW
Randy Turtenwald, City Engineer
Dale Hexom, Director of Public Works
Amy Peterson, Planning Director
Steve Carlyon, Park and Recreation Director
Tim Kabat, Mayor



MEDARY

Roellig Park

Forest Hills
Driving Range

Forest
Hills Golf
Course

Plan A (Blue): Current/Bike/PED Lane on Milson Ct

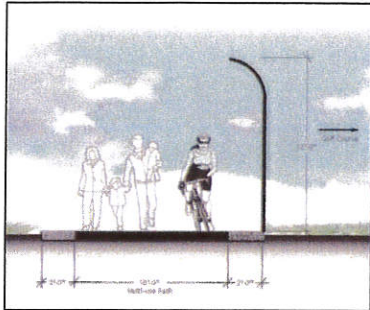
Plan B (Red): Requires land swap with property owner (indicated with black box), build bridge on creek behind Boy Scout building, construct trail through driving range, erect 10' fence around driving range to protect bikers from balls. estimated cost \$125k

Plan C (yellow): Same requirements as B without cost of fence and net. Estimated cost \$80K.

Plan D (black): trail estimated cost of \$20k...assuming land swap fails.

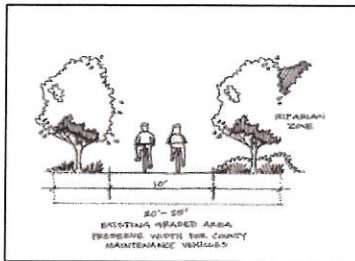
Fencing Types – At some point given proximity to active course areas, fencing will be necessary to protect trail users from errant golf balls. Below is a compilation of fencing types used in the case studies from the previous section.

High Curved Fences



The high curved fences are typically a minimum of 12 feet in height and curved at the tops. The photograph above shows an example where the fence is painted black to blend with the landscape. Below, is an example of utilizing trees as a form of visual as well as protective screening for trail users. In many cases no fencing is needed due to golf course configuration and thorough understanding of possible golf ball trajectories.

Vegetation



No Fence



Cage



Netting



Above are examples of more extensive as well as costlier methods of protecting trail users. The cage fencing fully encloses trail users which would be appropriate for trail alignments that pass under driving ranges. Netting allows for intercepting higher flying golf balls and while the initial cost of materials is low compared to metal fencing, longterm maintenance and replacement should always be considered when choosing