

**High Cliff State Park Multimodal Connection Request for Proposals Questions and Answers
2457-021-001**

Q: Is it expected that the trails will only be used for pedestrians and bikes, and not any motorized vehicles?

A: The primary focus will be on bicycle and pedestrian facilities; however, we recognize that this connection could include a mix of facilities, including on-road facilities and trails. The ultimate uses for this new connection should complement existing, allowable uses on adjacent and connecting trail systems.

Q: Can you please provide more detail about who facilitated the stakeholder meetings that have already taken place and who participated?

A: After the Trail Summit in February 2020, East Central was approached by several stakeholders who were interested in further exploring a connection/trail from the Fox Cities to High Cliff State Park. As a result, an informal stakeholder team was formed, where those involved included a mix of community leaders, municipal staff, State Department of Transportation and State Department of Natural Resources representatives, and local non-profits. There were four stakeholder meetings held, with the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region and East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission serving as the meeting facilitators and helping to guide the conversation. The intent of these meetings was to gauge the interest from local communities in this connection; identify where gaps exist; and discuss options for this connection, including route identification, desired facilities, and “ownership” of this connection. These meetings were held monthly from December 2020-March 2021, and the end result of these four meetings was establishing the need for a feasibility study and master plan.

The following stakeholders participated in the meetings:

Name	Community/Organization
Dave Horst	Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
Kim Biedermann	East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Tanner Russell	East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Matt Halada	East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Tom Flick	City of Appleton
Brian Glaeser	Calumet County
Jay Vosters	High Cliff State Park
Mayor Don Merkes	City of Menasha
Joe Stephenson	City of Menasha
Paul Stelter	Friends of High Cliff State Park
Lorrie Formella	Friends of High Cliff State Park
County Supervisor Alice Connors	Calumet County
County Supervisor Pete Stier	Calumet County
County Supervisor Mary Schwalenberg	Calumet County
Adam Backus	Calumet County
Mike Duke	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Holly Femal	Village of Kimberly/Fox Cities Greenways
Adam Breest	Village of Little Chute/Fox Cities Greenways
Bryan Lipke	Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Brenda Stumpf	Village of Sherwood
Mark Mommaerts	Village of Harrison
Paul Gessler	Fox Cities Cycling Association

Q: Spurs to the proposed connection between Fox Cities and High Cliff Park are mentioned. Is analysis of these spurs part of the expected scope of work?

The only desired analysis of spurs is what would be directly related to a connection to High Cliff State Park or to bring people back to urbanized areas. From this investigation, the study could include recommendations for how this connection ties back into the larger bicycle and pedestrian network.

Q: Is it expected that one, best possible, trail connection will be proposed, or it is possible that two alternatives could be presented and pursued?

A: The main route currently identified as needing a thorough examination is extending the trail system in the City of Menasha east into High Cliff State Park. However, we recognize that other potential routes exist. Therefore, we are open to having more than one feasible and practical connection presented, especially if these connections draw from different geographies (e.g. one connection from the City of Menasha and another connection from the City of Kaukauna, both leading to High Cliff State Park). It is expected that feasibility study portion of this project will eliminate any route that would be made impossible due to environmental or topographical concerns/restrictions.

Q: Are there federal funds involved with this project? Some sections of the RFP refer to this funding, but the grant source was not presented as federal.

A: This project's grant source is through the David and Rita Nelson Family Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region. However, ECWRPC anticipates that there may be some staff time (outside of the grant award) that could be used toward this project. That staff time would be funded through federal dollars. Additionally, future design and construction of a route may be done through use of federal funds.

Q: The RFP states a need for written approval in order to change personnel from those listed in the proposal. Will this be in effect since the grant source is not federal?

A: Yes, any changes in key personnel working on this project must be approved through ECWRPC.

Q: The RFP mentions trail spurs. Is ECW interested in deliverables that propose one route or multiple routes?

A: The main route currently identified as needing a thorough examination is extending the trail system in the City of Menasha east into High Cliff State Park. However, we recognize that other potential routes exist. Therefore, we are open to having more than one feasible and practical connection presented, especially if these connections draw from different geographies (e.g. one connection from the City of Menasha and another connection from the City of Kaukauna, both to High Cliff State Park) and if they are at least in part supported by the existing bicycle and pedestrian network and ECWRPC's bicycle and pedestrian plan.