

Reporting on progress, the feasibility studies, and next steps



Linking communities, neighborhoods & nature



The Basics

- **The Idea**

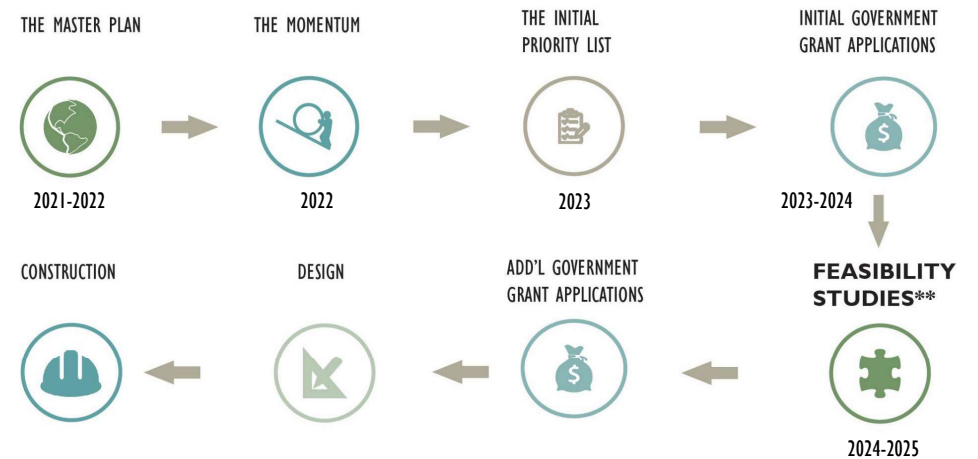
- A bike/pedestrian route that will extend the regional east/west trail corridor from the Trestle to High Cliff State Park.
- Establish extended linkages to neighborhoods.
- The connection will tie into the Friendship Trail and existing and planned local trails.

- **The Core TEAM**

- Menasha
- Harrison
- Sherwood
- Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region- David L. & Rita E. Nelson Family Fund
- East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
- Fox Cities Greenways
- Friends of High Cliff State Park
- Calumet County



An Overview of the Corridor Timeline



Project Highlights to date...

FEASIBILITY STUDY: LOCAL ROADS

THE BASICS:

Project will look in more detail at the feasibility of building off-road trails along Manitowoc Road (1.6 miles), Old Highway Road (1.8 miles), & Pigeon Road north (.64 miles).

WIN:

Study funded 80% by WisDOT and 20% by the David L. & Rita E. Nelson Fund.

TIMING:

Feasibility Study to be presented to local municipalities in February & March 2025.

OLD HIGHWAY ROAD TRAIL DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

THE BASICS:

Design & construction of a new off-road trail along Old Highway Road from Lake Park Road to Friendship Trail (1.8 miles)

WIN:

Awarded WisDOT grant in August 2024.

TIMING:

Applying for WisDNR Stewardship grant in 2025, design to begin in late 2025, Construction in Spring 2027.

JEFFERSON PARK TRAIL REHABILITATION

THE BASICS:

Project will include the rehabilitation and realignment of the trails throughout the park -- a main spine of the High Cliff Connection Corridor.

WIN:

WisDNR grant awarded for \$100,000.

TIMING:

Construction completed in 2024.

FEASIBILITY STUDY: STH 114

THE BASICS:

Project will look in more detail at the feasibility of building off-road trails along STH 114 from Oneida Street to Lake Park Road (2.06 miles) and from Fire Lane 12 to Pigeon Road (1.56 miles).

WIN:

Study funded 80% by WisDOT and 20% by the David L. & Rita E. Nelson Fund.

TIMING:

Feasibility Study to be presented to local municipalities in February & March 2025.



PIGEON ROAD SOUTH TRAIL REHABILITATION

THE BASICS:

Project will rehabilitate the existing Pigeon Road Trail near High Cliff State Park.

WIN:

Project is included within the Village's Budget.

TIMING:

Will be resubmitting for a WisDNR Stewardship Grant in 2025

Funding overview to date

- **CFFVR:**

- Donated **\$100,000** to fund the master plan.
- **\$2,000,000** pledged towards the project development.
 - funds used for local matching, part-time trail coordinator, website, etc.
 - pledged to match local municipal match at 1:2 level.
 - will be covering 100% of the design costs for the STH 114 Woodlands West segment.
- **\$210,000** in additional donations secured toward the project through CFFVR in 2024.

- **Government grants (2023 and 2024):**

- **\$100,000** WisDNR grant to Menasha for Jefferson Trail Rehabilitation.
- **\$65,600** WisDOT grant for Local Roads Feasibility Study.
- **\$48,000** WisDOT grant for STH 114 Trails Feasibility Study.
- **\$ 935,489.34** WisDOT grant for Old Highway Road Trail: Design and Construction.

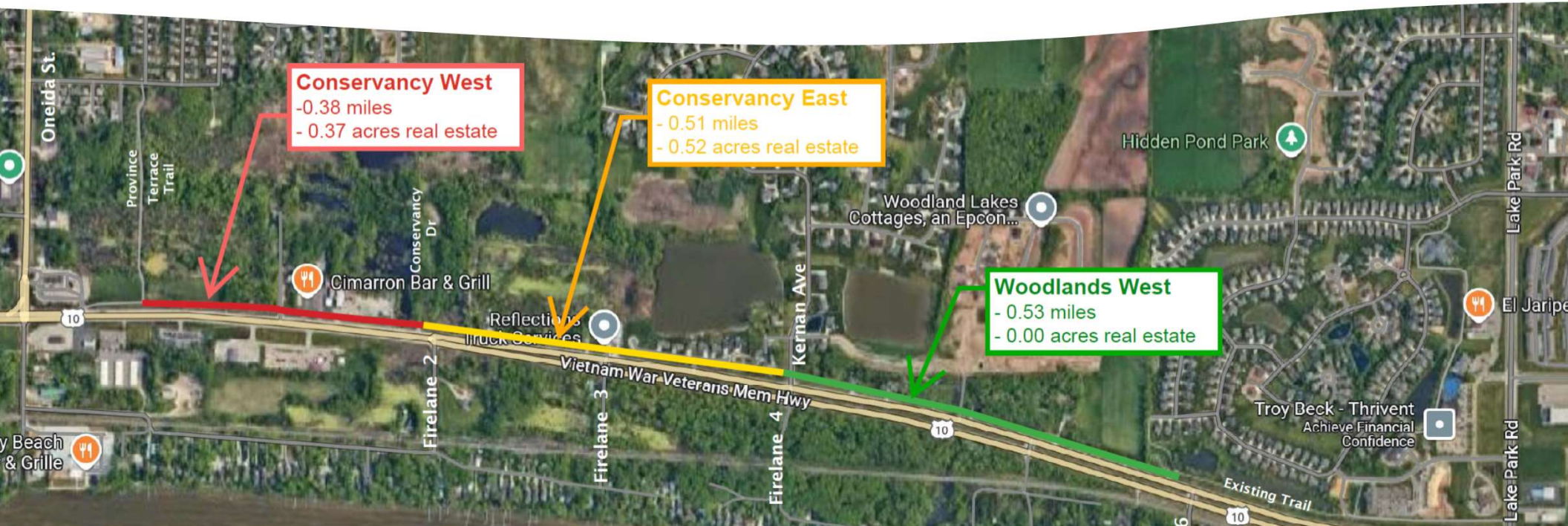
Alternatives considered: STH 114 West (Menasha & Harrison)

South side:

- More environmental impacts
- Tighter right-of-way, so if constructed w/ right-of-way minimal offset from roadway
- Extensive real estate required if safe offset
- Extensive storm sewer improvements necessary

*North side:

- Direct connections to existing east and west trails
- Less property acquisition
- Less environmental impacts
- Greater roadway offset (safer)
- Lower cost



Feasibility Study Recommendations: STH 114 West

Anticipated construction order of segments:

1. Woodlands West
2. Conservancy East
3. Conservancy West

Woodlands West

- Connecting into the existing trail on the east.
- Design will be funded 100% by CFFVR- start in 2025.
- Multiple grants to be applied for in 2025.
- Menasha will lead
- Est: \$1,680,000 design & construction

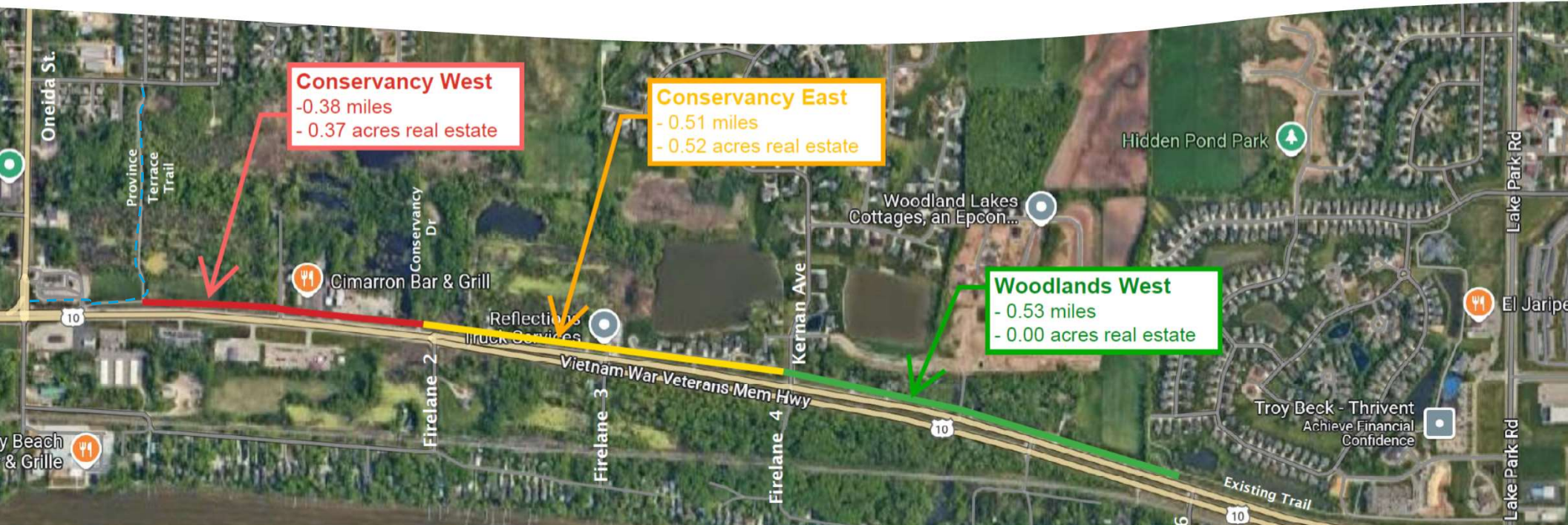
Conservancy East

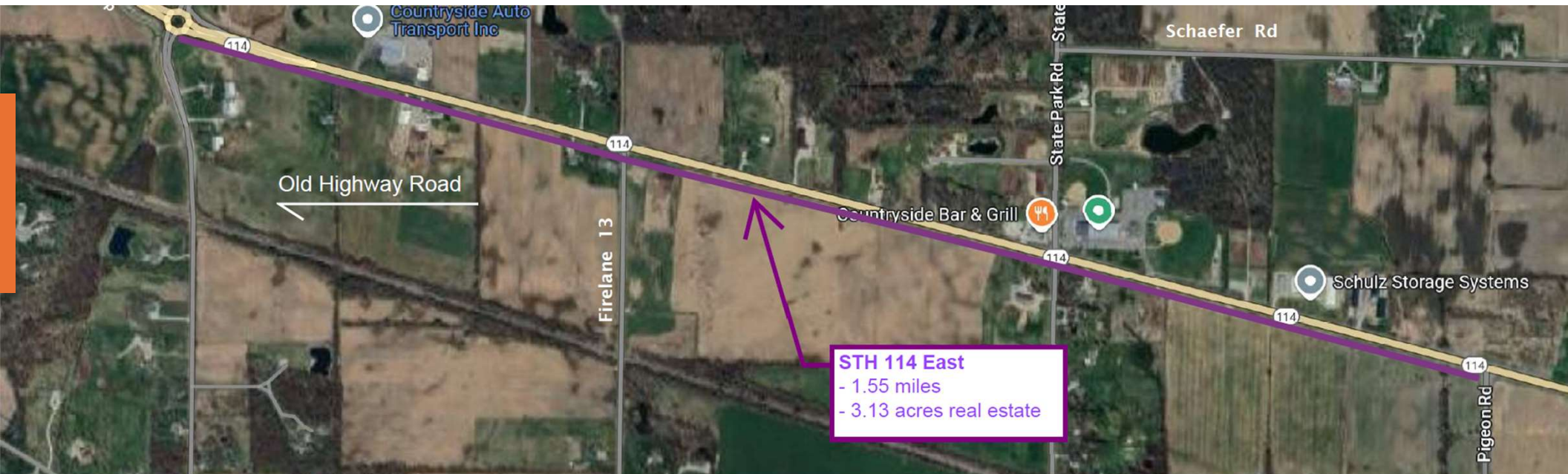
- Connect in with the Conservancy
- Est. \$1,793,000 in real estate, design, and construction

Conservancy West

- Will connect in with the Conservancy and the existing Province Terrace Trail.
- Est: \$1,393,000 in real estate, design & construction

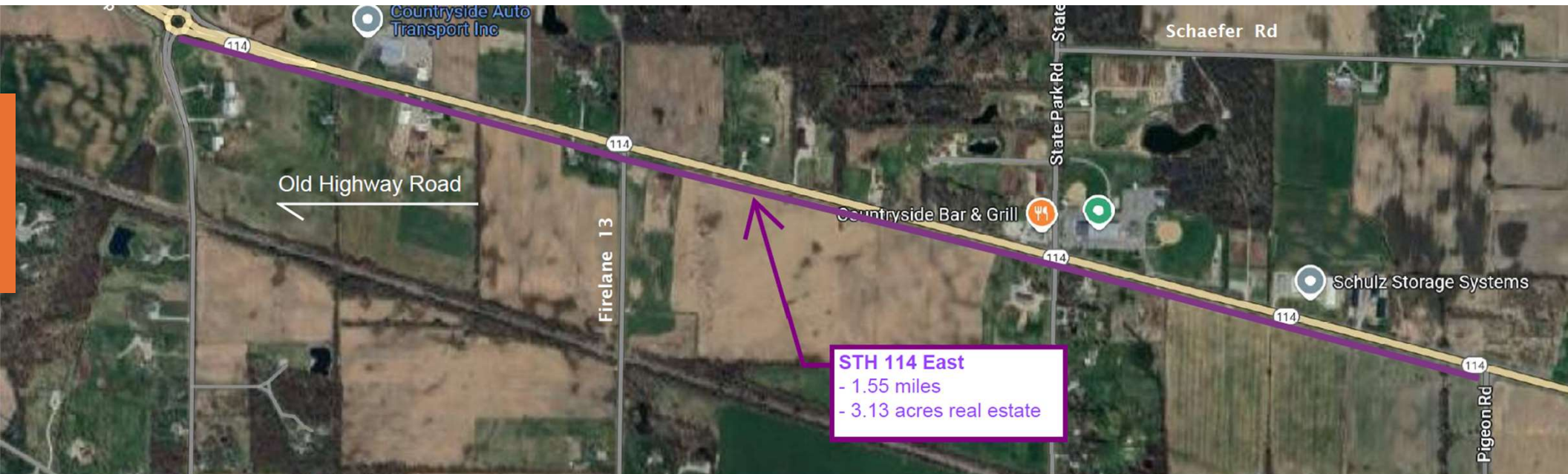
**Anticipated cost for all three segments:
\$4,866,000**





Alternatives considered: STH 114 East

- **West side of road:**
 - to extend existing trail
 - direct connection into future STH 114 east
- **Alternatives reviewed:**
 - within the R/W (requiring extensive storm sewer)
 - ***behind the R/W**
 - maintaining existing ditches
 - safer
 - greater property acquisition



Feasibility Study Recommendations: STH 114 West

- Extensive real estate needed
- Potential utility corridor challenges
- Anticipated cost \$1,790,000.00

Alternatives considered: Local Roads



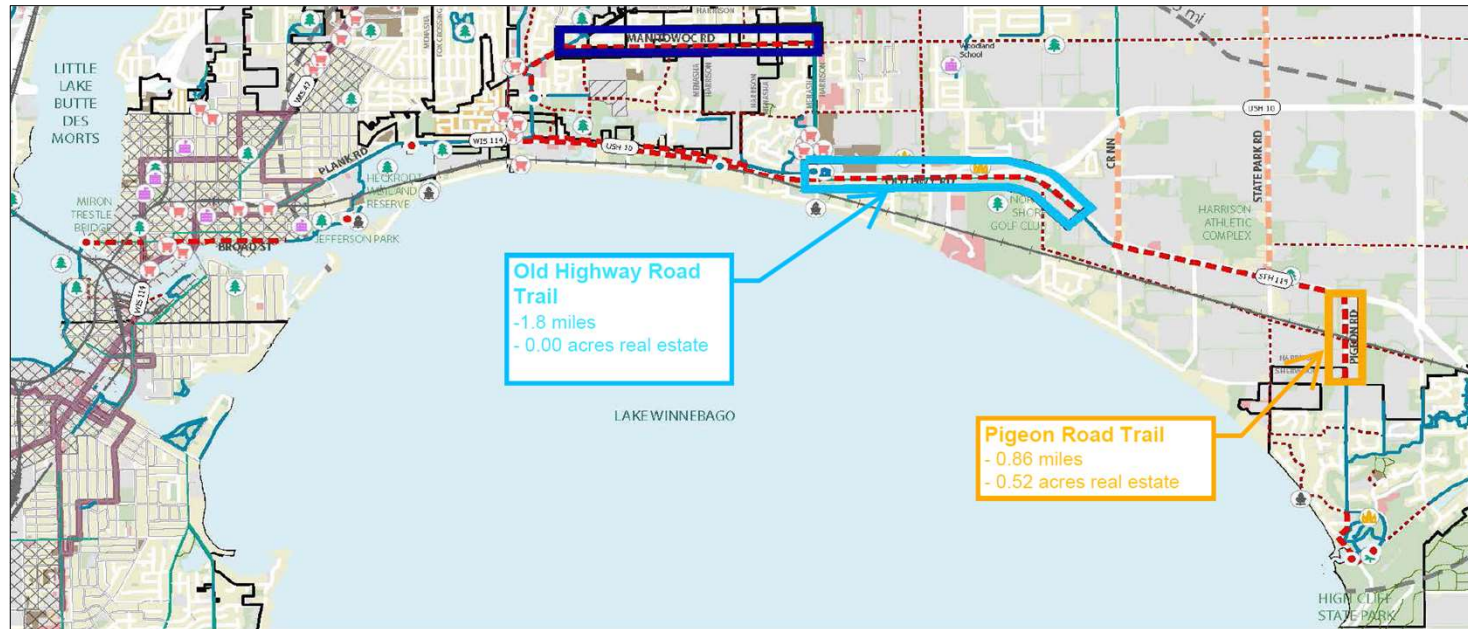
Old Highway Road

- **Removal of bike lanes and replacement with off-road trail (safety)**
- ***South side vs north side:**
 - connectivity to neighborhoods
 - farther away from the highway (safety)
 - direct connectivity to Friendship State Trail
 - located in Harrison

Pigeon Road Trail

- **West side of road:**
 - to extend existing trail
 - direct connection into future STH 114 east
 - located in Sherwood & Harrison
- **Alternatives reviewed:**
 - within the R/W (requiring extensive storm sewer)
 - ***behind the R/W**
 - maintaining existing ditches
 - safer
 - Lower cost
 - Requires some property acquisition

Feasibility Study Recommendations: Local Roads



Manitowoc Road:

- Not recommended to move forward as a formal part of the High Cliff Connection.
- Future planning for the road should include bike/ped facilities.

Old Highway Road Trail

- WisDOT TAP grant awarded for \$935,489.34.
- Cost: \$1,455,000
- Design starts in late 2025.
- Construction in 2027.
- Additional grant applications to be submitted in 2025.

Pigeon Road Trail Extension

- 1st Real Estate need to be secured....
- After real estate, funding applications/ awards, then design, then construction.
- **Cost: \$1,750,000**
- Non- funding challenges: Real estate, railroad, stormwater

Anticipated Cost* for both:

\$3,205,000.00

*(real estate, design, construction with inflation)

Current Old Highway Funding:

- \$935,489.34: WisDOT grant
- \$519,510.66 : Residual funds needed
 - Apply for add'l grants
 - 2:1 match with local funds from CFFVR (for every \$2 municipality contributes, the CFFVR contributes \$1)

POTENTIAL Project Timeline after Feasibility Studies*

Project Process



Corridor Projects (listed by construction year)



* Based on funding availability & strip property acquisition

Current estimate* is \$9,861.000 to build the proposed 6 segments.

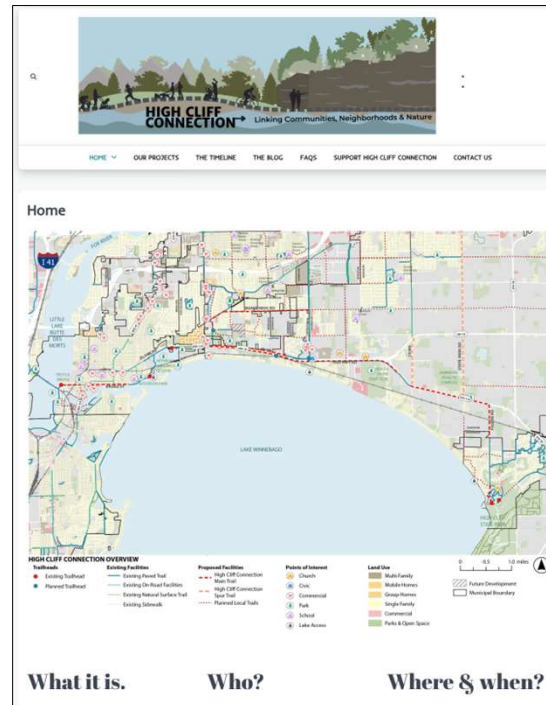
*estimate includes real estate, design, and construction and inflation

For 2025 potential game plan....



How to Stay Connected with the Project

- The website:
highcliffconnection.org
- Sign up for updates (via website)
- Follow our partners--
sharing via social media
- Annual Newsletter



The Blog

DONATIONS

\$10,000 donation for High Cliff Connection

12/15/2024

We are excited to announce that High Cliff Connection recently received another private donation for \$10,000! Thank you donors! As...

\$200,000 Donation to the High Cliff Connection!

10/10/2024

We are excited to announce that the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region (CFVR) recently received a \$200,000 anonymous...

Matching givers to the connections

12/03/2024

Thank you for your interest and passion to build a safe, off-road trail connection to/from High Cliff. We've heard from...

Jefferson Park Renovations-- the trail and much more!

10/07/2024

Happening Now! Work is well underway at Jefferson Park with the new playground open to the community in early June...

FOX CITIES GREENWAYS ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 23, 2025 | POPLAR HALL

FOX CITIES Greenway Annual Meeting on January 23rd

10/23/2024

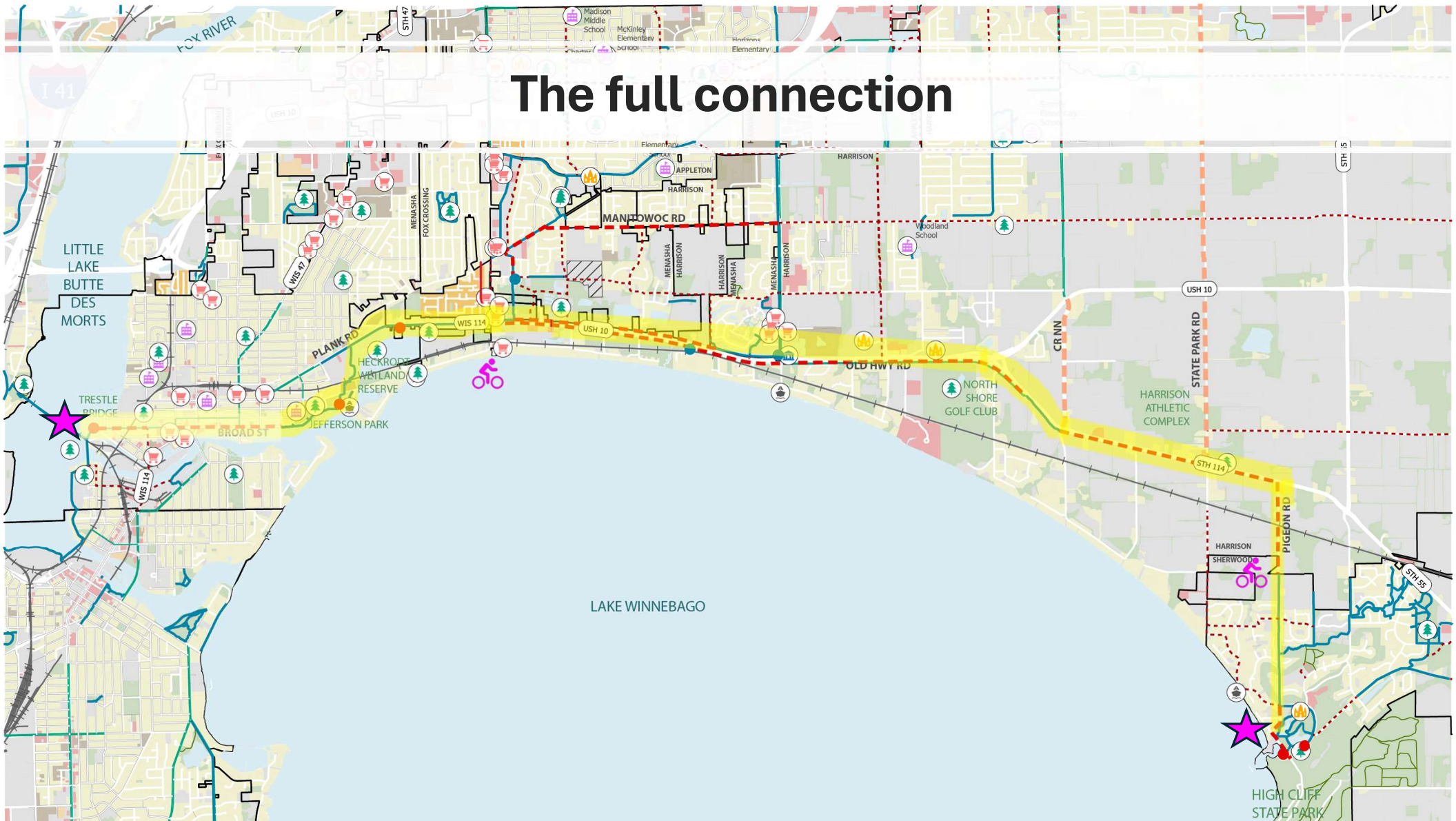
The Fox Cities Greenways invites you to join their annual meeting on January 23rd. They'll be celebrating 30 years of...

Lime Kiln Trail Improvements @ High Cliff State Park

09/29/2024

The Friends of High Cliff State Park (501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization), have been actively fundraising and pursuing grants...

The full connection



Thank you! Questions?

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