



Appendix 7:

Draft Plan Public Comments

Fall 2013

The draft Active Choices: Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan document was made available to the public for a 30 day public comment period from Tuesday, November 19, 2013 to Wednesday, December 18, 2013.

Notice of this public comment period was advertised in the [Champaign-Urbana] News-Gazette, [Champaign] County Star, Mahomet Citizen, and The [St. Joseph] Leader newspapers.

The plan was made available on the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) website at <http://www.ccrpc.org/greenways/documents>, and linked to the CCRPC homepage.

A physical copy of the draft plan document was also placed at the following locations for the duration of the public comment period:

1. Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC), 1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, IL
2. Champaign Public Library: 200 W. Green St., Champaign, IL
3. Urbana Free Library: 210 W. Green St., Urbana, IL
4. Mahomet Public Library: 1602 E. Oak St., Mahomet, IL
5. St. Joseph Township-Swearingen Memorial Library: 201 N. Third St., St. Joseph, IL

The following comments were received in December 2013.

**Active Choices: Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan
13 December 2013**

Public Comments from one person

1) Chapter 12, Goal 4: Environment (natural)

Comment: “I suggest adding an objective about ranking projects that provide environmental benefits. Could be tied to the ‘environmental friendliness’ evaluation... but needs should actually inform decision making, rather than just an evaluation.”

2) Section 14.1.2 Project Prioritization, Checklist Factors

Comment: “Improves travel safety (1) and provides access for bicyclists and pedestrians [9] are the same measure. I think there is opportunity to make a much more robust prioritization methodology that might be used to inform local agencies, rather than react. The public input component is great and could maybe be weighted higher or additional measures related to public input (how long has the item been discussed). Economic and environmental measures would also enhance the prioritization.”

3) Section 14.1.2 Project Prioritization, Checklist Factors

Comment: “Consider removing the detail from the plan so that the factors might be changed/updated without amending the plan. Make the use of project prioritization an element of the plan, but specifics should be technical elements that can be updated as needed.”

From: [Patti Petrie](#)
To: [Gabriel Lewis](#)
Subject: Re: FW: Announcement of a Meeting for the Greenways & Trails (GT) Joint Technical and Policy Committees - December 19, 2013 - 1:30 p.m.
Date: Friday, December 20, 2013 11:33:47 AM

Gabe, congratulations on the approval of the report yesterday. I choose not to mention the follow during the meeting, but will here for the record. Less than a 100 individuals, which actually might be duplicate count, commented on a plan that could possibly have a life of 5-years. Since there is no funding on the horizon for an update in 2-3 years, my confidence level as to reliability as a county wide express of priorities is very low. And if the original plan was produced under similar circumstances and then this update of that original plan just compounds the lack of reliability levels.

Not only do I want this comment on the record, but I strongly encourage an adjustment as to how the public is engaged during various comment periods. Your report that there were no public comments during mid Nov to mid Dec. is a huge flag. I know that there was pressure to put closure on the project due to the funding guidelines. But expecting people to take time to comment during the holidays is just unrealistic.

Enjoy your holidays, P2

On Thu, Dec 19, 2013 at 11:21 AM, Gabriel Lewis <GLewis@ccrpc.org> wrote:

This is a reminder that our meeting is this afternoon at 1:30 pm. Please keep in mind that we need at least 5 voting Policy members or proxies to have quorum. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks!
Gabe

From: Pamela Schroeder
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2013 3:55 PM
Subject: Announcement of a Meeting for the Greenways & Trails (GT) Joint Technical and Policy Committees - December 19, 2013 - 1:30 p.m.

Greenways & Trails Technical and Policy Committee Members,

The next Greenways & Trails Joint Technical and Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 19, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. in the John Dimit Meeting Room at Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 E Washington St., Urbana.

The agenda and related Committee meeting materials can be found at this link:

<http://www.ccrpc.org/greenways/news.php>

Under Meetings~ click "2013 Meetings"

Under Meeting Materials~ click "12-19-13"

Please let me know if you can or cannot attend.

Pam Schroeder
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Professional Education and Outreach Programs <http://www.urban.uiuc.edu/ce>

<http://www.urban.uiuc.edu/ce/cm>

Past Chair APA Planning Women Division <http://www.urban.uiuc.edu/apa-pw>