

## 4 DEFINITIONS

What are greenways, trails, and bikeways?

A **greenway** is a corridor of open land managed for conservation and/or recreation. Greenways may follow natural land or water features such as rivers, shorelines or ridges, or human landscape features such as abandoned railroad corridors, trails, or canals. Greenways may form connections between communities, parks, historic and cultural sites, and nature preserves. Although they differ in location and function, they provide recreational benefits, protect natural areas, enhance natural beauty and quality of life, and/or stimulate economic development opportunities in neighborhoods and communities.

This plan will describe the following types of greenways:

- **Public Park:** publicly owned park available for public use.
- **Public Golf Course:** publicly or privately owned golf course available for public use.
- **Public/Private Recreational:** privately owned recreational land available for public use.
- **Private Recreational:** privately owned recreational land not available for public use.



**Greenway:** Boneyard Greenway, Champaign

A **trail** or path is a type of greenway which can accommodate one or many types of non-automobile users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, roller skaters, and wheelchair users. Trails can be used for recreation and/or transportation purposes, and can connect different land uses and facilities. Trails can be found in parks, natural environments, and other designated corridors.



**Trail:** King Park Trail, Urbana  
Courtesy: Urbana Park District

A **bikeway** is a generic term for any road, street, path, or way that in some manner is specifically designated for bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes (AASHTO 2012).



**Bikeway:** Bike lane on Illinois Street, Urbana

Trails and bikeways enable people to use active transportation for recreation and/or transportation purposes. **Active transportation** is any self-propelled, human-powered transportation mode (CDC 2010), including walking and bicycling.