

RESOLUTION ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Public Works Committee
Initiated by

Lori Williams, Parks Director
Drafted by

Public Works Committee
Submitted by

January 30, 2013
Date Drafted



ENDORISING THE ROCK COUNTY BELOIT – JANESVILLE BICYCLE ROUTE FOR DESIGNATION AS A STATE TRAIL

1. WHEREAS, Rock County Public Works Committee and Parks Division have expressed,
2. through policy and action, their support for transportation improvements that improve walking
3. and biking options within the county and promote a healthier lifestyle and enhanced quality of
4. life for its citizens and visitors; and,
- 5.
6. WHEREAS, Rock County Parks has been engaged in the Beloit – Janesville Bicycle Route
7. Corridor Master Plan and Feasibility Study, and has contributed towards the selection of
8. preferred routes from the City of Janesville, including routes which pass through Town of
9. Beloit-owned lands and Rock County road rights-of-way, connecting to the official City of
10. Beloit bike trail system; and,
- 11.
12. WHEREAS, the Rock County Public Works Committee and Parks Advisory Committee on
13. January 26, 2012 resolved to endorse the Corridor Master Plan and Feasibility Study; and,
- 14.
15. WHEREAS, the County is authorized to work in partnership with state agencies in the
16. acquisition, protection, and stewardship of natural resources; and the County has the
17. opportunity to apply for designation in the DNR's State Trails Program; and,
- 18.
19. WHEREAS, the designation of the Beloit to Janesville Trail as a Wisconsin State Trail will
20. further the mutual goal of the DNR and the county to promote the unique trail opportunity and
21. connection of Wisconsin and Rock County for the people of the state.
- 22.
23. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
24. assembled this 28 day of February, 2013, endorses the "State Trail Designation" with the
25. Department of Natural Resources and directs the Parks Director apply for this status.

13-2B-269

Respectfully submitted,
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kurtis Yankee
Kurtis Yankee, Chair

Tom Presny
Tom Presny

Betty Jo Bussie
Betty Jo Bussie, Vice-Chair

Floyd Finney
Floyd Finney

Eva M. Arnold
Eva M. Arnold

Dean Paynter
Dean Paynter

Brent Fox
Brent Fox

Dave Brown
Dave Brown

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FISCAL NOTE:

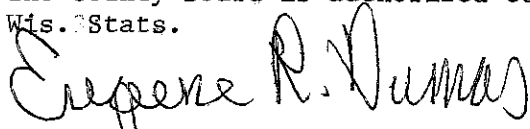
This resolution recommends the Parks Director apply to the Department of Natural Resources for "State Trail Designation" status for the Beloit - Janesville Bicycle Route. This resolution has no fiscal impact in and of itself.



Sherry Oja
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action by secs. 59.01 and 59.51(2), Wis. Stats.



Eugene R. Dumas
Deputy Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.



Craig Knutson
County Administrator

- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY -

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE ROCK COUNTY BELOIT – JANESVILLE BICYCLE
ROUTE FOR DESIGNATION AS A STATE TRAIL**

The Rock County Parks Outdoor Recreation and Open Space Plan encourages the establishment of on-road routes and off-road trail connections within the county that improve regional transportation options for bicycles and pedestrians and at the same time enhance the value of existing and planned residential, recreational, and economic development areas in the county.

Rock County Parks has been engaged in the Beloit – Janesville Bicycle Route Corridor Master Plan and Feasibility Study, and has contributed towards the selection of preferred routes from the City of Janesville, including routes which pass through Town of Beloit-owned lands and Rock County road rights-of-way, connecting to the official City of Beloit bike trail system;

The Trail is currently under development. The off – road section that is currently completed runs from Janesville to Afton. The anticipated completion time frame for the remaining section of trail from the Town of Afton to the City of Beloit is two to five years.

Britt Brown, DNR State Trails Director, visited the Beloit to Janesville Trail. During that visit in early 2012, State Trail designation was discussed with the trail committee. The designation process involves writing a letter of request to the WDNR. The advantage of doing this now is that it will make other funding application opportunities will be available.

This is an exciting opportunity for Rock County Parks to increase the publicity of the Beloit to Janesville Trail on a state level. The DNR will publish our parks information in their state trails materials, making this trail a tourist destination. The uncompleted sections of this trail will not be publicized on state maps until they are finished.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Williams".

Lori Williams, Director
Rock County Parks