

Highcrest Connection

WORKSHOP 1 - COMMUNITY THOUGHTS

- Can the trees that we are taking out be replaced with new trees? And can new trees be planted behind the path to provide a buffer between the path and the private property?
- Where will the power poles in conflict with the path be relocated?
- Will the City be restoring decorative mailbox structures and flagstone sidewalks with in-kind materials?
- How will the project consider the conflicts of backing out of their driveway and potentially hitting a bicyclist on the path?
- Can the MUP be rerouted within the right-of-way at the SW corner of Highcrest & Spring Creek to create a more straight-through path to the Parkview intersection?
- "I feel like the project has already been decided, we had no say in it, and there's nothing we can do about it."
- At Pleasant View, there is existing guard rail. Will it be replaced with the MUP project?
- How does the MUP go on Spring Creek? Is there a way to cross Spring Creek as part of this proposed path? It is dangerous to cross Spring Creek; can we add a pedestrian light or better crossing?
- I am worried about the loss of privacy since this is too close to my house.
- I am not against the idea of bike paths, just questioning if it works here.
- We are spending too much money on something that very little Rockford citizens will be using for less than half of the year.
- As an alternative, can we have the bike path on the street, rather than the right of way?
- Can we add rumbling strips, signs, slow down signs, or change the speed of Highcrest Road so we can ensure safety?
- The turns on Highcrest make it hard to see traffic as is. There are so many cross street and hills it seems impractical and dangerous.
- I am highly in favor! Many cyclists would use this!

- I am concerned about this because many cars speed on Highcrest and there have been over 20 accidents on Highcrest on the turn right by my house.
- I am worried about the existing trees. Can we replace the trees that we are taking out with new ones on the path?
- I am worried about the grade change of my driveway.
- What can we do about the traffic speed?
- We live on a hill, and I have no doubt that you will need to put a wall up. I am worried about backing into someone.
- A bicycle path on Highcrest is a hazardous situation. Drivers of cars and emergency vehicles on Highcrest usually do not follow the speed limit. There are a number of blind driveways on Highcrest where people do not have a clear line of sight as they out of their driveways. Cyclists move fast and likely unaware of the driveways and possibly are riding too abreast. It takes only a tap from the car or swerving to miss a driveway car to send cyclists flying. Riders are going to get hurt or even killed. Given the situation, what is your risk tolerance level? Stated more directly, how many cyclists are you willing to sacrifice? To what extent did you factor in risk tolerance level as well as your usual emphasis on cost and accessibility in your decision to place a bicycle path on Highcrest rather than a safer street?
- Optimistic [for the whole] because I speculate that; climate change, questionable oil resources, and the younger generation (who strives on what was mentioned earlier in this sentence) might change (notice the underlined might) the economics of Rockford. Thus, should Rockford change with the times? Maybe somehow?
- Questionably - As a degreed electrical and Quality engineer (notice the big Q), medically retired commissioned officer (with additional duties as Safety officer at Ft. Bragg and Panama, I question why you are creating this bike path BECAUSE a bike path already exist! Just like the flier you posted on our door "Highcrest connection". Are you looking for a Cadillac (that follows bad specs)? Have more "what if" questions, that I will share later.
- Observation - back when the initial grant was proposed (2020) there were a group of 8-10 cyclist who rode down the center of Highcrest early in the morning. They were riding 4 abreast, it's like they were riding "Tour de Rockford". Didn't see them at all in 2021 or not yet this year. I'm thinking they were probably some activist politicking for bike paths.

I'm a disabled veteran who lives with his family on Highcrest. My observation tells me (for the time I'm watching (about 3 hrs daily) that there is 2-3 cyclist on Highcrest. (There was no school).

After the 17 Aug meeting, I walked with what I thought was the bike lane (with my cane) on the South side of Highcrest Rd, and 36 vehicles passed me with no one breaking the white line barrier.

Have noticed/appears that people on bikes do not like to flow with traffic (maybe because they are traveling slower/ease?)

Have not seen a bike path that would be similar from Rebecca to Cynthia. It would be nice to have a reference

Though, Was In Janesville Wi on Monday the 22nd on Pontiac Dr. and the road was the most similar to Highcrest that I have seen because they have the "slow down" or a bike lane strips on the road (I witnessed 5 bikes too).

- Some residents will lose space for their cars on their driveway, so they park on the street. For me, who does not drive, is frustrating/unsafe when my driver can't see oncoming traffic with cars (speeding) and parking on the side of the road
- Opinion - Reinforce the bike lanes/slow down lanes, and teach cyclist how to directional travel (maybe mark it again)
- Do a feasibility study (return on investment) Think of the State of Illinois wasting money (or is that what they do?)
- Save our forest city trees (doesn't trees capture carbon?)
- If it's so important why doesn't Rockford budget for it? Or is the free money the issue?
- To me, this project just doesn't make sense. Waste of money and city property. This proposed bike path, with no changes to the specs, does more harm than good for our community (Highcrest area people). Again, my opinion. So, let's make some changes! And get Rockford Cops to discourage fast driving people! Are we going to have cops on bikes to patrol the path?