



RESOLUTION # 53-1/22

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 1-12

BOARD ACTION

Adopted:
For: 2
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 2
Vote Req: -
Other Action: -

PUBLIC WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted:
For: 1
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 0

RE: SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF THE GOOSE ISLAND CONNECTOR TRAIL AS PART OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAIL WITHIN LA CROSSE COUNTY

WHEREAS, bicycle tourism is a growing industry in North America, contributing \$47 billion a year to the economies of communities that provide facilities for such tourists; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River Trail is a national bicycle route, along the length of the Mississippi River, through ten states, from the headwaters at Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River Trail was designated as one of only 16 National Millennium Trails which honor the past and imagine the future by preserving and commemorating major events and aspects of America's history and culture; and

WHEREAS, the Goose Island Connector Trail will enhance the Mississippi River Trail to provide access to and promote the scenic, historic, archaeological, cultural, recreational and natural qualities of the Mississippi River and its amenities; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River Trail is located primarily on the Wisconsin All-American Great River Road National Scenic Byway (WIS 35) between Prescott and Illinois State Line, but also routed on other state and county highways, local roads or alternative routes for bicycling; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Mississippi River Parkway Commission and La Crosse County with the cooperation of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and other stakeholders, have proposed a specific route to be designated as Goose Island Connector trail as part of the Mississippi River Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River Trail implements Wisconsin Statutes Chapters 1.11, 84.01(35), 84.60, and 85.02, 349.23 and Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter Trans 400 which required that "due consideration to establishing bikeways and pedestrian ways in all new highway construction and reconstruction projects"; and

WHEREAS, the Goose Island Connector Trail adds value to existing roads and trails; and

WHEREAS, the Goose Island Connector Trail is largely ready to sign and market, and many suggested improvements are already planned; and

WHEREAS, the Goose Island Connector Trail as part of the Mississippi River Trail will contribute to sustainable economic development in 33 Wisconsin Mississippi River communities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed route for the Goose Island Connector Trail comes through La Crosse County and can therefore provide a benefit to our residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Goose Island Connector Trail will provide increased recreational and transportation choices for individuals to enjoy the outdoors as well as provide health, economic, and quality of life benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River Trail continues Wisconsin's tradition of honoring and enhancing the Mississippi River by offering multiple bicycling experiences, each in a unique river landscape.

RE: SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF THE GOOSE ISLAND CONNECTOR TRAIL AS PART OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAIL WITHIN LA CROSSE COUNTY

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board hereby supports the development of the Goose Island Connector Trail as designated to run along the west of State Highway 35 from the southern border of the La Crosse City limits to CTH GI within the town of Shelby and La Crosse County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, County staff have investigated the proposed route and find it to be a suitable route, and desire that the route be designated so that it can be mapped and signed, thereby promoting bicycle tourism in our area and that the La Crosse County Highway Commissioner shall serve as the primary point of contact on behalf of the County.

FISCAL NOTE: Designation of the Goose Island Connector trail will facilitate application for grant funding that may require a local match. The shared local funding will be negotiated between the Town of Shelby, City of La Crosse and La Crosse County that will be considered in future annual budgets. The exact amount of local funding is not known at this time and this resolution does not obligate the County to a specific funding allocation.

Date: 1/10/22
[Signature]
COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: Jan. 10, 2022
[Signature]
RECORDING CLERK

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|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Reviewed Only | Recommended | Not Recommended | |
| Co. Admin. | <u>[Signature]</u> | <u>[Signature]</u> | <u> </u> | Requested By: Joseph Langeberg |
| Fin. Director | <u>[Signature]</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | Date Requested: January 5, 2022 |
| Corp. Counsel | <u>[Signature]</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | Drafted By: Corporation Counsel |
| Board Chair | <u>[Signature]</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | |

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 20 Day of January, 2022

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE
I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 20th day of January 2022.

[Signature]
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk