

30th Street Corridor Rails with Trails Project

Committee on Transportation and Transit

January 2026

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Review of Project Objectives

- ▶ A feasibility study of a shared bicycle/pedestrian path alongside railroad corridor in Milwaukee's northside
- ▶ Funded by a WisDOT TAP grant
- ▶ Engage the community in the planning process
- ▶ Coordinate with private railroad companies to maintain rail operations
- ▶ Evaluate alternative routes along or near the rail corridor
- ▶ Complete the first phase of design



Review: 30th Street Corridor Description

- ▶ 7-mile corridor, Havenwoods State Forest to Menomonee Valley
- ▶ ~75% owned by WATCO/Wisconsin Southern, ~25% by Canadian Pacific (CP)
- ▶ At-grade, above-grade and below-grade conditions
 - ▶ 9 railroad bridges over City of Milwaukee streets
 - ▶ 11 City of Milwaukee bridges over rail
 - ▶ One railroad underpass at I-94
 - ▶ 3 at-grade railroad crossings at City of Milwaukee streets
- ▶ Rail ROW is typically 100-ft wide, mostly single-tracked



Project schedule overview

Phase	2026				2027	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Engagement Round 1: Priorities & Existing Conditions	★					
Engagement Round 2: Alternatives		★				
Engagement Round 3: Preferred Alignment			★			
Feasibility Study			→			
30% Construction Plans				→		

Stakeholder Engagement

- ▶ Technical Advisory Committee:
 - ▶ Municipal agencies, County, SEWRPC, WisDOT representatives (approx. 10 people)
 - ▶ Anticipate meeting up to 8 times throughout the project
- ▶ Public Advisory Committee:
 - ▶ Community organizations and leaders, coalition members, advocacy organizations local to the corridor
 - ▶ \$1,500 stipends for 10 non-profit organizations to participate
 - ▶ Anticipate meeting up to 8 times throughout the project
- ▶ Additional Stakeholders:
 - ▶ Major businesses, additional neighborhood organizations, BIDs, advocacy groups, etc.



Round 1 Engagement

Anticipated Jan. 26 - Feb. 28, 2026

- ▶ **Goals of Round 1:**
 - ▶ Share existing conditions analysis with the community
 - ▶ Confirm project goals, and define community priorities and values
 - ▶ Identify key trail connections and potential opportunities for ramps/trailheads
 - ▶ Raise project awareness and offer education about rail-with-trails and benefits of trails
- ▶ **Engagement Activities:**
 - ▶ Technical Advisory Committee and Public Advisory Committee meetings
 - ▶ Additional stakeholder focus group meetings
 - ▶ Meeting with the 30th Street Corridor Equitable Development Coalition
 - ▶ (1) Public meeting
 - ▶ Online web content, e-blasts, social media, potential mailing
 - ▶ Online survey



Round 2 Engagement

Anticipated April 2026

- ▶ Goals of Round 2:
 - ▶ Reflect what was heard from Round 1
 - ▶ Share alternative trail alignments with the community and receive input
 - ▶ Continue to raise awareness about the project and educate the community
- ▶ Engagement Activities:
 - ▶ Technical Advisory Committee and Public Advisory Committee meetings
 - ▶ Additional stakeholder focus group meetings
 - ▶ Meeting with the 30th Street Corridor Equitable Development Task Force
 - ▶ (2) Public meetings in two different parts of the corridor
 - ▶ Online web content, e-blasts, social media, potential mailing
 - ▶ Online survey



Questions?

