

Attention:

The attached document is the DeKalb County Greenways and Trails Coalition County Plan. This plan is the result of a grass roots effort by a citizen coalition concerned for the future land use in DeKalb County. The coalition formed in the spring of 2003 to address the issues of land, trail and green space development in a county experiencing rapid growth and change. The goal of the coalition is to provide proactive ideas and develop a philosophy of land use that preserves the environment and transportation and recreation options that will enhance the quality of life in DeKalb County.

The DCGTC received a grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to develop a comprehensive countywide trails and greenways plan. After a competitive Request For Proposal a contract was let to Schreiber/Anderson Associates of Madison Wisconsin. The plan is the result of extensive citizen input throughout the county. Town meetings were held in the northern, central and southern areas of the county seeking ideas, concerns and needs of people living in these areas. The coalition also worked closely with the County Planning Commission, County Forest Preserve Commission and County Board. The plan is the result of a collaborative effort and reflects input from a cross section of concerned citizens in the county.

The plan provides valuable information to be used in city, village and county planning efforts including park district, forest preserve and IDNR properties. The recommendations cited in the plan offer guidelines for current land use and future development. The coalition presents this plan as a tool for government bodies and private landowners making land use decisions. The philosophy imbedded in the plan is one of natural resource preservation and restoration, trail development for both transportation and recreational use, and enhancement of the quality of life in DeKalb County through land connection rather than separation.

The DeKalb County Greenways and Trails Coalition presents this plan with enthusiasm for its content and the willingness to present, discuss and promote the plan throughout the county. For further information or discussion about the plan content please contact Terry Hannan at 815-895-7191 or thannan@dekalbcounty.org.

Best Regards,

Nancy Partch
DCGTC Secretary