

Active Transportation Alliance

Sustainable
Transportation Forum



Maggie Melin
Advocacy Manager



Our Mission

To advocate for walking, bicycling, and public transit to create healthy, sustainable, equitable communities.

- Member-based not-for-profit organization
- Serves Chicagoland region
- Founded 1985 as Chicagoland Bicycle Federation
- 20,000+ members and supporters



AGENDA

- Programs
 - Complete Streets (CS) Coalition
 - Bike Walk Every Town
 - Trail Connect Campaign
- Capital bill advocacy

Complete Streets Coalition

Network of decision makers, government staff, and advocates gather to **advocate for complete streets** and sustainable, healthy, and equitable transportation in the Chicagoland region:

- professional development
- peer-learning
- knowledge sharing
- policy advocacy





CS Coalition Vision Statement

“We envision a future where all Chicagoland communities offer

**a safe, convenient,
connected
transportation
environment**

with abundant walking,
bicycling and transit options
available for all ages and
abilities.”



- Began in 2015
- 5 co-chairs
- Quarterly meetings
- Monthly emails



CS Coalition Background



CS Coalition Quarterly Meetings

- **Winter 2018:**
Funding Walking & Biking Projects
- **Spring 2019:**
Transportation & Equity
- **Summer 2019:**
Bike & Scooter Share
- **Fall 2019:**
Batavia Walking Tour (Oct. 11)

Suburban Advocacy Program



Projects are easier to implement when there is strong **community support** and the right **policies/plans** are in place.

Bike Walk Every Town



Skills building training

Hone your skills and become a savvy advocate.



Issue based education

Learn the nuts and bolts of biking, walking, and transit infrastructure and policy issues.



Local advocate network

Meet other advocates in your area and start building your local movement.



Professional coaching

Active Trans' expert advocacy staff to help you bring change to your town.

activetrans.org/bikewalkeverytown



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Bike Walk
Every Town

Chicagoland's voice for better biking, walking and transit.

Bike Walk Every Town

- Trainings/workshops
- Campaign building
- Conference calls
- Google groups
- Webinars
- Mini-stipends
- Networking
- Resources



Bike Walk Every Town - Resources

Visit: activetrans.org/bikewalkeverytown

- Campaign building worksheets
- Campaign building tip sheets
- Case studies
- Letter and petition templates
- Policy & plan tracker
- Webinar links

Resources

Campaign Building Worksheets

[Policy Assessment Worksheet \(pdf\)](#)

[Policy Assessment FAQ \(pdf\)](#)

[Sample Request Letter \(doc, pdf\)](#)

[Campaign Action Planning Worksheet \(pdf\)](#)

Policy Platforms

[Bike Walk Every Town Local Policy Platform \(pdf\)](#)

[Bike Walk Every Town State & Regional Policy Platform \(pdf\)](#)

[Bike Walk Every Town Model Resolution \(pdf\)](#)

Campaign Building Tip Sheets

[Building a Base of Supporters \(pdf\)](#)

[Outreach and Communications \(pdf\)](#)

[Engaging Decisions Makers \(pdf\)](#)

[How to Write a Petition \(pdf\)](#)

[How to Develop an Elevator Pitch \(pdf\)](#)

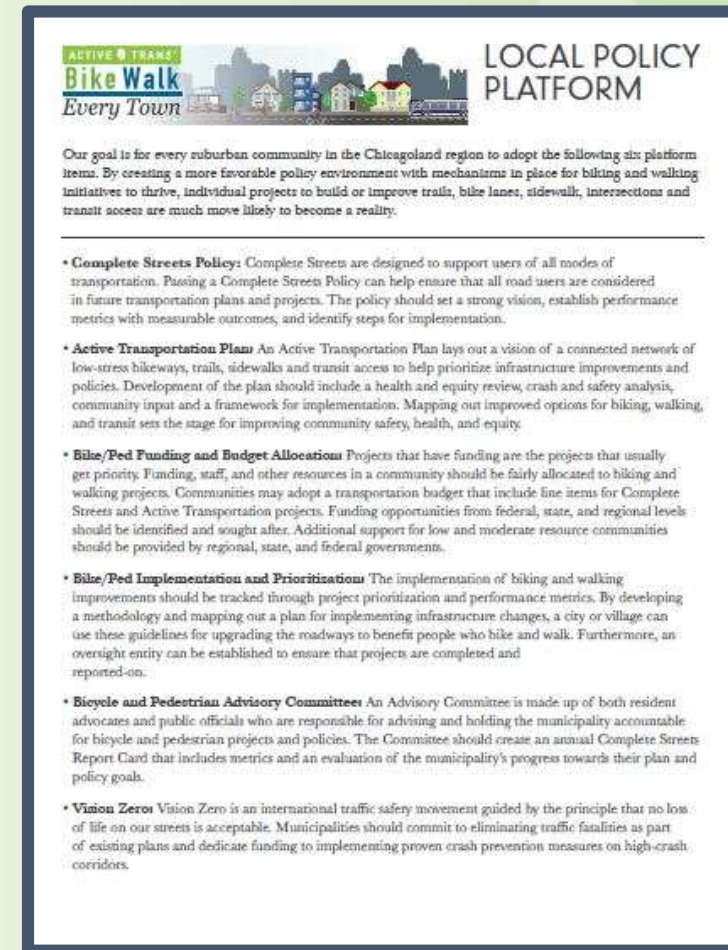
Bike Walk Every Town - Webinars

- Election Advocacy Strategies
- Communication & Messaging
- Outreach Strategies & Petition Writing
- How-to of Organizing a Pop-up Event
- Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Councils (BPAC) Panel Discussion
- Event Organizing Ideas and Tips
- Bikeway Design 101
- State Funding for Walking, Biking & Transit
- Trail Connect Campaign



Bike Walk Every Town - Local Policy Platform

- Complete Streets Policy
- Active Transportation Plan
- Funding
- Implementation
- Advisory Council



The screenshot shows the title page and introductory text of the 'LOCAL POLICY PLATFORM' document. The header includes the 'ACTIVE TRANS' logo, the 'Bike Walk Every Town' logo, and the title 'LOCAL POLICY PLATFORM'. Below the header is a paragraph stating the goal for every suburban community in the Chicagoland region to adopt six platform items. This is followed by a list of six items, each with a brief description of the policy goal.

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Bike Walk
Every Town

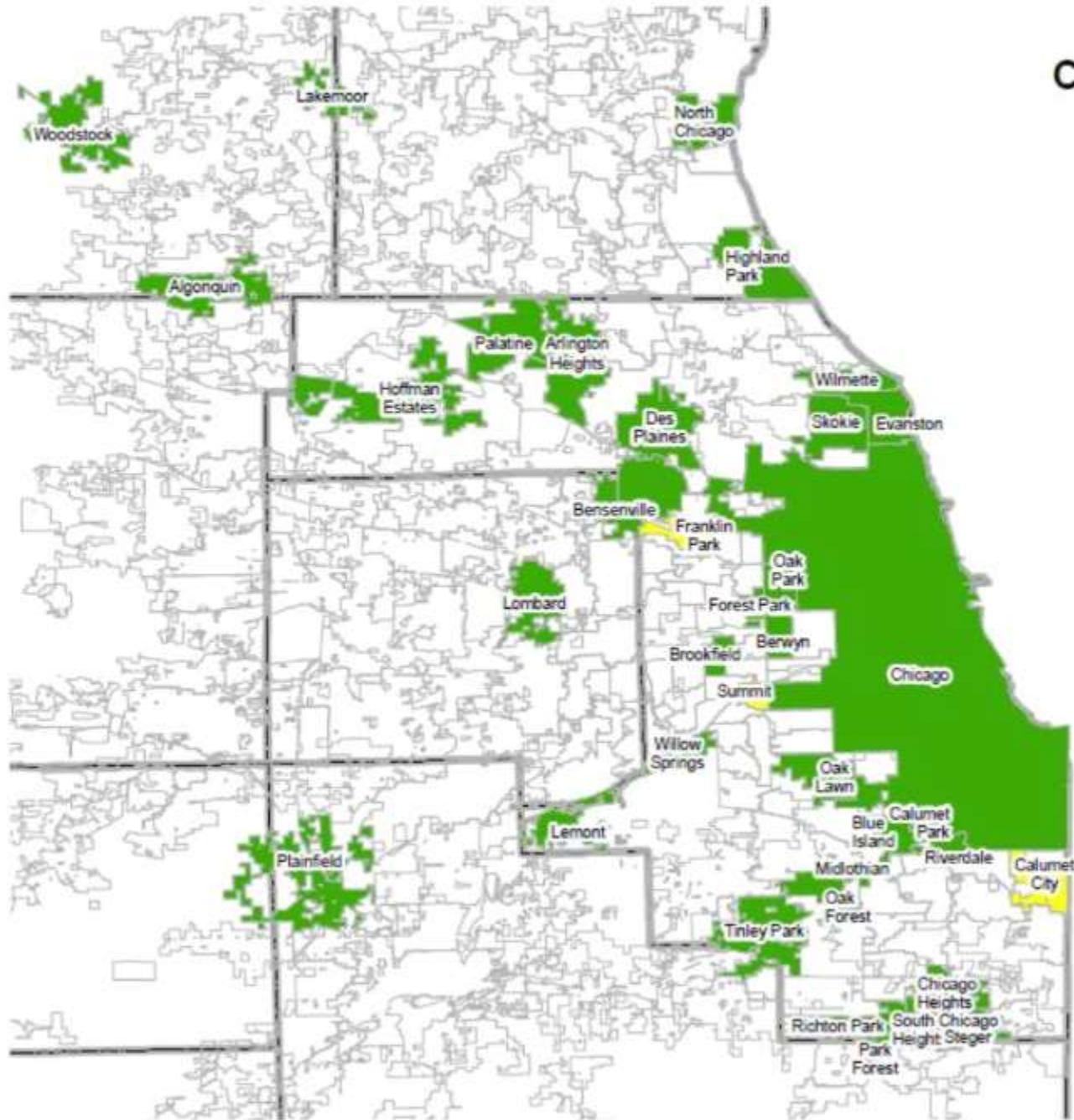
LOCAL POLICY PLATFORM

Our goal is for every suburban community in the Chicagoland region to adopt the following six platform items. By creating a more favorable policy environment with mechanisms in place for biking and walking initiatives to thrive, individual projects to build or improve trails, bike lanes, sidewalks, intersections and transit access are much more likely to become a reality.

- **Complete Streets Policy:** Complete Streets are designed to support users of all modes of transportation. Passing a Complete Streets Policy can help ensure that all road users are considered in future transportation plans and projects. The policy should set a strong vision, establish performance metrics with measurable outcomes, and identify steps for implementation.
- **Active Transportation Plan:** An Active Transportation Plan lays out a vision of a connected network of low-stress bikeways, trails, sidewalks and transit access to help prioritize infrastructure improvements and policies. Development of the plan should include a health and equity review, crash and safety analysis, community input and a framework for implementation. Mapping out improved options for biking, walking, and transit sets the stage for improving community safety, health, and equity.
- **Bike/Ped Funding and Budget Allocations:** Projects that have funding are the projects that usually get priority. Funding, staff, and other resources in a community should be fairly allocated to biking and walking projects. Communities may adopt a transportation budget that include line items for Complete Streets and Active Transportation projects. Funding opportunities from federal, state, and regional levels should be identified and sought after. Additional support for low and moderate resource communities should be provided by regional, state, and federal governments.
- **Bike/Ped Implementation and Prioritization:** The implementation of biking and walking improvements should be tracked through project prioritization and performance metrics. By developing a methodology and mapping out a plan for implementing infrastructure changes, a city or village can use these guidelines for upgrading the roadways to benefit people who bike and walk. Furthermore, an oversight entity can be established to ensure that projects are completed and reported-on.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committees:** An Advisory Committee is made up of both resident advocates and public officials who are responsible for advising and holding the municipality accountable for bicycle and pedestrian projects and policies. The Committee should create an annual Complete Streets Report Card that includes metrics and an evaluation of the municipality's progress towards their plan and policy goals.
- **Vision Zero:** Vision Zero is an international traffic safety movement guided by the principle that no loss of life on our streets is acceptable. Municipalities should commit to eliminating traffic fatalities as part of existing plans and dedicate funding to implementing proven crash prevention measures on high-crash corridors.

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- Advisor



Municipalities with a Complete Streets Policy

- Community without Policy
- Community with Policy, Complete
- Community with Policy, In Progress



0 2.25 4.5 9 13.5 18 Miles

Date Created: 11/28/2016

Data Sources: NAVTEQ, CMAP, Active Transportation Alliance.



Complete Streets Policies

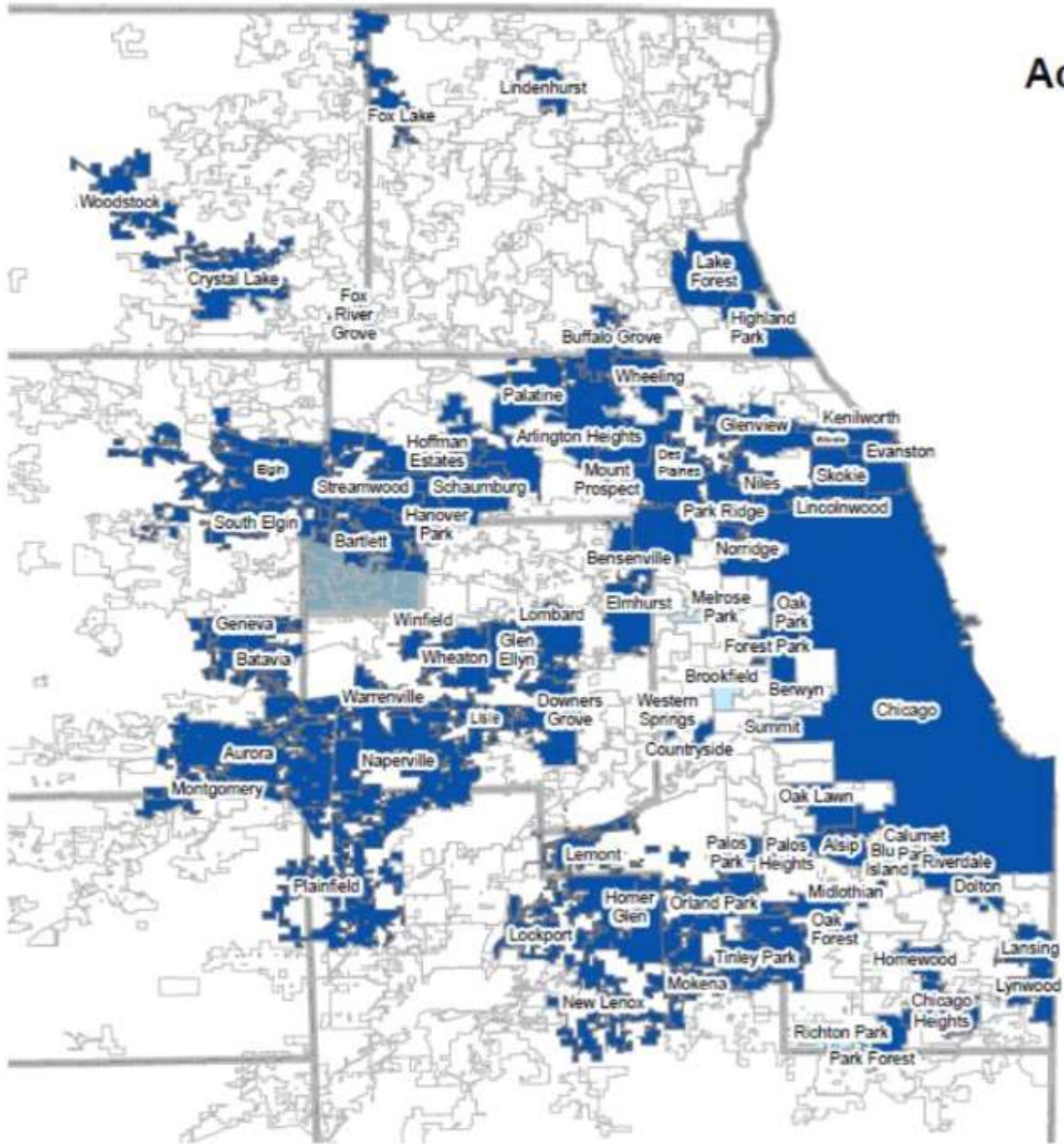
- Algonquin - 2014
- Lakemoor – 2014
(rated one of nation's top policies in 2015)

10 Elements of a Complete Streets Policy

1. Vision and intent (includes equity)
2. Diverse users
3. Commitment in all projects and phases
4. Clear, accountable expectations
5. Jurisdiction/interagency coordination
6. Design & implementation timeframe
7. Land use and context sensitivity
8. Performance measures
9. Project selection criteria
10. Specific implementation steps

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Municipalities with an Active Transportation Plan



Date Created: 11/28/2016
Data Sources: NAVTEQ, CMAP, Active Transportation Alliance.



Active Transportation Plans

- South Elgin – 2014 bike/ped plan
- Fox Lake – 2011 bike/ped plan
- Aurora – 2008 bike/ped plan
- Elgin – 2008 bike plan
- Batavia – 2007 bike plan
- Geneva – 2005 bike plan
- Montgomery – bike plan in comprehensive plan



Bike Walk Every Town - Local Policy Platform

- Complete Streets Policy
- Active Transportation Plan
- **Funding**
- **Implementation**
- Advisory Council



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Chicagoland's voice for better biking, walking and transit.

Federal Funding - ITEP

Location	Cycle Date	Project Title	Federal Funds
Algonquin	2013 Cycle	Harper Drive Multi-Use Path	\$ 677,520
Aurora	2013 Cycle	Kautz Road Multi-Use Path Extension 2013	\$ 438,720
Lakemoor	2013 Cycle	Wegner-Darrell Ped/Bike Path	\$ 264,400
City of McHenry	2013 Cycle	Municipal Bike Path	\$ 358,840
City of McHenry	2013 Cycle	Miller Road Bike Path	\$ 354,000
Algonquin	2018 Cycle	Algonquin Main Street Protected Bike Lane	\$ 1,196,800
Aurora	2018 Cycle	Prairie Path - Aurora	\$ 610,470
Cary	2018 Cycle	Hoffman Park Bike Path	\$ 1,104,000



Federal Funding – CMAP/TAP & SRTS

Location	CMAQ TAP Cycle Date	Project Title	Federal Funds
Algonquin County	Cycle 2016-20	Longmeadow Parkway Bike Path Extensions	\$ 1,400,023
Aurora	Cycle 2016-20	Edgelawn Dr Bikeway Project	\$ 322,440
Aurora	Cycle 2016-20	Montgomery Rd Multi-Use Path	\$ 430,068
Geneva	Cycle 2016-20	IL 38/E State St from IL 25/Bennett St to Kirk Rd Bicycle Facilities	\$ 452,550
Kane County	Cycle 2018-22	Metra Bike Parking Expansion	\$ 306,000
Aurora	Cycle 2018-22	East New York Street Bike Path	\$ 428,680
St. Charles	Cycle 2018-22	Great Western Regional Trail Extension (LeRoy Oakes Forest Preserve to Randall Rd)	\$ 680,034

2019 Safe Routes to School Grant

- Village of Cary
- \$199,090
- Briargate Elementary
- **Improvements:** New Sidewalk, Sidewalk Gap Closure, Sidewalk Curb Ramp, Median Refuge/Center Crossing, Flashing Beacons, Crossing Improvements

Bike Walk Every Town - Local Policy Platform

- Complete Streets Policy
- Active Transportation Plan
- Funding
- Implementation
- **Advisory Council**



Fox River Valley Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Councils

- Aurora
- Batavia
- Elgin



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Fox River Valley Campaign – Batavia

Campaign: Complete Street chalk board project (Walking and Biking Batavia)

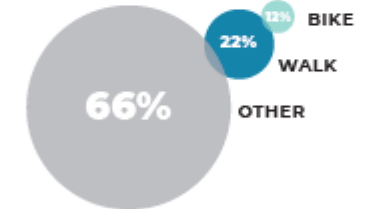
- Customers marked how they traveled on chalkboard
- Organizing roundtable with businesses



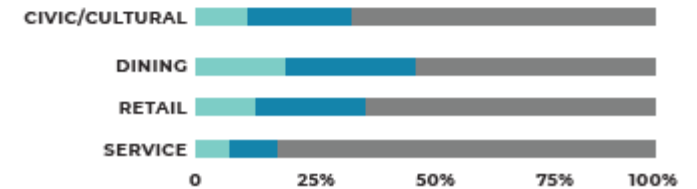
PARTICIPANT OVERVIEW

- SERVICE PROVIDERS**
 - Beardsgaard
 - Salt Escape
- CIVIC AND CULTURAL**
 - Batavia Park District
 - Batavia Library
 - Water Street Studios
- RETAIL**
 - Kiss the Sky
 - Salvaged Heart
 - Windmill City Discount Liquors
 - Healing Arts Metaphysical Center
 - Bookstore
 - Six + Cypress
 - Tea Tree
- DINING**
 - Andre's
 - Briana's
 - Limestone Coffee and Tea
 - Creamery
 - Daddio's

TOTAL MODE SHARE



PERCENT MODE SHARE BY SECTOR



Fox River Valley Campaign – Elgin

2018 Campaign: Balance bike program for kids (Elgin Bike Hub)

- Workshops for low-income, Latino neighborhood
- Gathering residents' opinions to update ATP

2019 Campaign: Film Screening & Book Discussion (Elgin Bike Hub)

- Community engagement
- Leadership development
- Equity discussions




Trail Connect Campaign

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Trail Connect Chicagoland

Linking Our Regional Trails



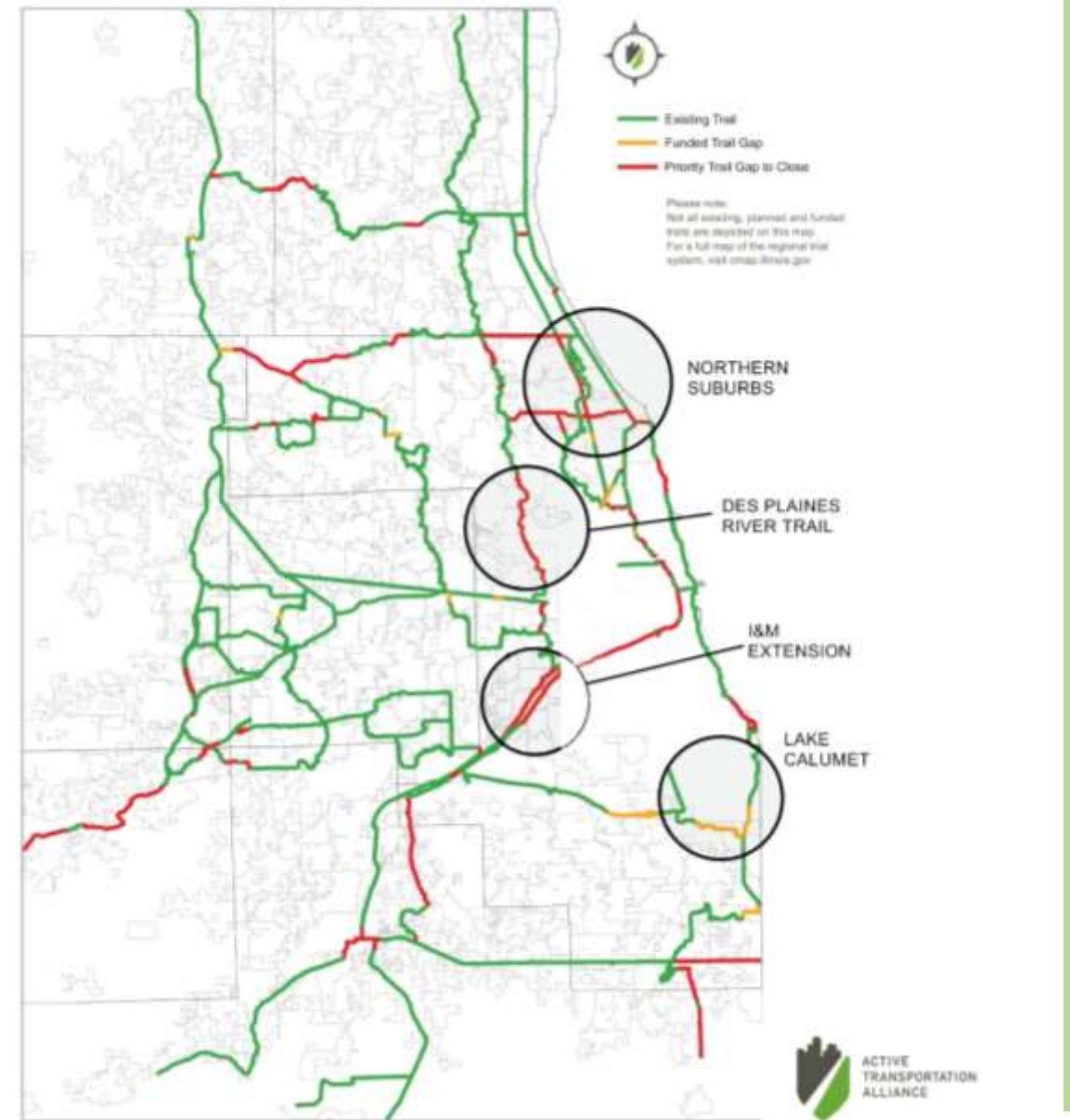
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Trail Connect Campaign

Four Target Areas:

- The **Lake Calumet region** on Chicago's Far South Side
- The **I&M Trail extension** in Southwest Cook County
- The southern segment of the **Des Plaines River Trail** in Central Cook County
- East-west connections in the **northern Cook County suburbs**





Capital Bill Advocacy Funding for walking, biking and trails

Capital Bill Advocacy

Capital bill to set aside **\$50 million annually** in state dollars for walking, biking, and trail projects.



Capital Bill Advocacy

- \$50 million annually (in addition to federal dollars) **provided through Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)**, administered by IDOT.
- **Prioritizes funds for high-need communities**
 - Eliminates local match requirement for low-income communities
 - Sets aside at least 25% of funds for high-need communities.

Capital Bill Advocacy

Why?

- **High Demand:** Applications for ITEP funds have exceeded available dollars by a factor of 7.

Status	Location	Funding Cycle	Proposed Project
Denied ITEP	McHenry	2013 Cycle	Riverwalk Lighting and Security
Denied ITEP	St. Charles	2013 Cycle	St. Charles - Great Western Trail East Extension
Denied ITEP	Algonquin	2016 Cycle	Algonquin - Main Street Protected Bike Lane
Denied ITEP	Aurora	2016 Cycle	Aurora Transportation Center Regional Facility Enhancements Project
Denied ITEP	Batavia	2016 Cycle	Dick Young Lake Run Forest Preserve Trail Connection
Denied ITEP	Batavia	2016 Cycle	Fabyan Pedestrian Bridge Fox River Trail
Denied ITEP	Carpentersville	2016 Cycle	Brunner Raceway Forest Preserve Trail Connection
Denied ITEP	Geneva	2016 Cycle	Kirk Road Multiuse Path
Denied ITEP	Kane County	2016 Cycle	Randall Road Multiuse Path
Denied ITEP	South Elgin	2016 Cycle	South Elgin Fox River Trail Gap
Denied ITEP	St. Charles	2016 Cycle	Greatwestern Trail Extension
Denied ITEP	West Dundee	2016 Cycle	Sleepy Hollow Road Trail
Denied ITEP	Aurora	2018 Cycle	New York Street Bike Path Extension
Denied ITEP	Batavia	2018 Cycle	Fox River Bike Path
Denied ITEP	Elgin	2018 Cycle	Tyler Creek Greenway Trail Connection
Denied ITEP	McHenry	2018 Cycle	Illinois Route 120 Pedestrian Lighting
Denied ITEP	St. Charles	2018 Cycle	Indiana Street Bike/Pedestrian Bridge over Fox River
Denied ITEP	Yorkville	2018 Cycle	Yorkville - ComEd Shared-Use Path
Denied ITEP	Yorkville	2018 Cycle	Yorkville - Fox Road Shared-Use Path
Denied ITEP	Sheridan	2018 Cycle	Sidewalk Network Improvement Project
Denied CMAQ TAP	Algonquin	Cycle 2014-18	Longmeadow Road Bike Path Extensions
Denied CMAQ TAP	Algonquin	Cycle 2016-20	Highland Ave Multi-use Trail from Tanglewood Dr to Haegers Bend Rd
Denied CMAQ TAP	South Elgin	Cycle 2016-20	Fox River Trail UPRR Underpass
Denied CMAQ TAP	Algonquin	Cycle 2018-22	Bike path along Randall Road
Denied CMAQ TAP	Algonquin	Cycle 2018-22	Multi-Use path along Main St, Park St, Harrison St and Riverview Dr
Denied CMAQ TAP	Aurora	Cycle 2018-22	Bike Share Program Expansion for City of Aurora

Capital Bill Advocacy

How?

- **Developed relationships** with state legislators – found champions.
- **Local Advocacy:** Supporters made 3,400+ connections via emails, tweets, calls.

Elgin legislators support funding trails and safe streets

Apr 22, 2019 | by Barb Cornew



On a recent beautiful Friday afternoon along the Fox River Trail in Elgin, State Senator Cristina Castro and State Representative Anna Moeller said they will advocate for funding projects in a capital bill that will make the city safer and more friendly to people walking and biking.

This is good news for Active Trans and partners across the state who are calling for state legislators to dedicate \$50 million annually to safe streets and trails projects in a capital bill.

The Elgin event brought together various supporters in the area, including [Elgin Bike Hub](#), [Downtown Neighborhood Association of Elgin](#), members of Elgin City Council and longtime bicycling advocate Tom Armstrong.

Capital Bill Advocacy

- **What's next?**
 - IDOT to work out funding guidelines (funding cycle, how to apply, equity component, etc)
 - Guidelines to be approved by state senate and house

Stay updated & thank you!

- **Sign-up for our Complete Streets Coalition email list**
 - Monthly newsletter includes latest funding opportunities
 - Join our October 11 walking tour of Batavia
- **Become a Bike Walk Every Town advocate** for your community
- Email Maggie@activetrans.org for more information