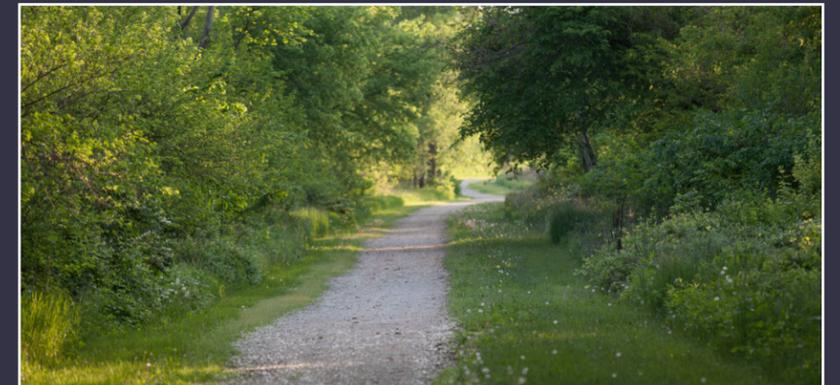


HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL

MASTER PLAN

STORY COUNTY CONSERVATION



Prepared by:



INTRODUCTION

The Heart of Iowa Nature Trail is a segment of the American Discovery Trail, which runs from the Atlantic Coast of Delaware to the Pacific Coast of California. Story County's segment of the American Discovery Trail is approximately 25 miles of gravel-surface trail, with paved sections in various areas. The trail corridor connects many small communities in the southern half of Story County.

Regionally, this existing segment of gravel trail connects to the High Trestle Trail on the west and south, the Iowa 330 trail to the east, and the Chichaqua Valley Trail in Baxter. These trails represent a future regional trail loop connecting many of the communities surrounding Des Moines, Marshalltown, and Ames.

The intent of this plan is to break down the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail into seven packages that are prioritized by funding and need.

Each package description includes:

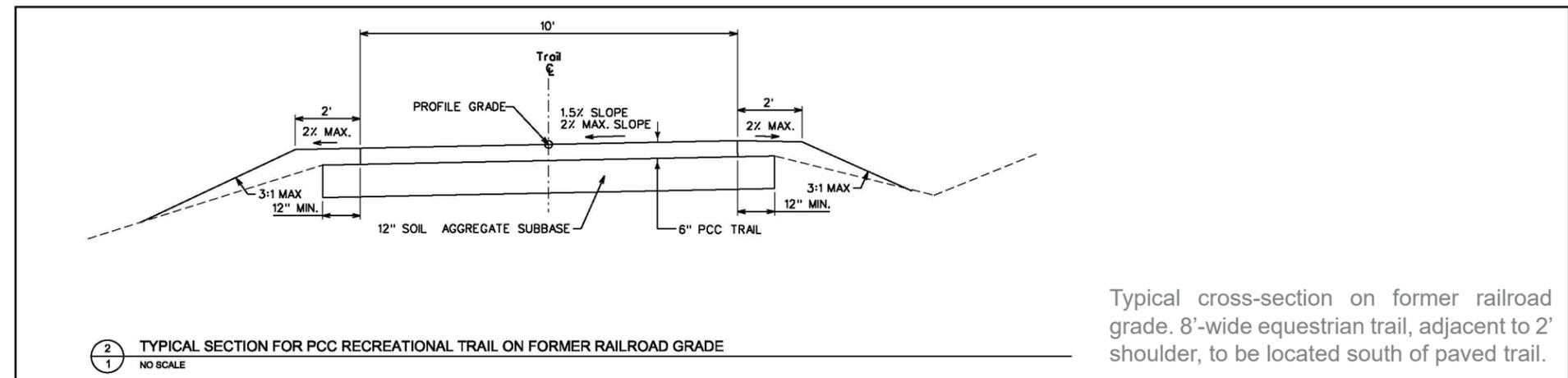
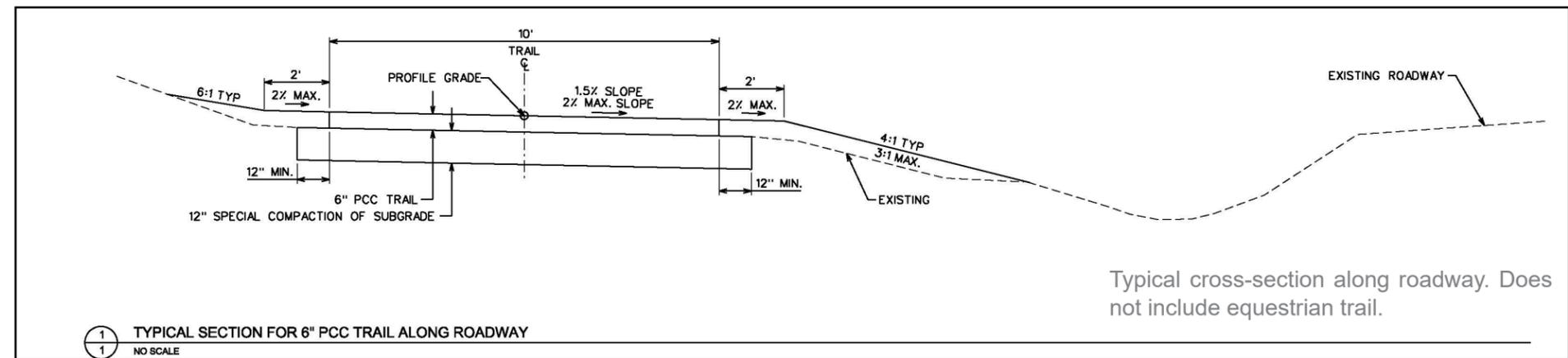
- recommended project boundaries,
- points of interest,
- maintenance considerations, and
- an opinion of probable project costs.

The final section of this plan is a grant funding table showing anticipated costs and likely funding sources. Pertinent details of each grant are also included in subsequent descriptions.

*Proposed routes through incorporated cities have not been reviewed and confirmed by each respective city's government officials or residents. The routes are designed to be preliminary and informational only, and should not be considered approved or finalized by each respective City government.

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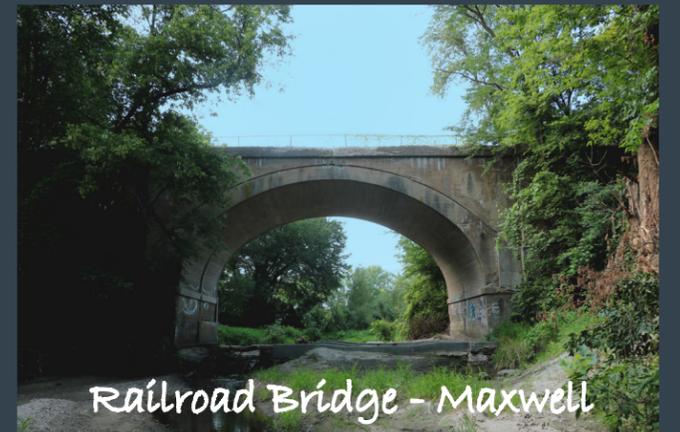




Hoy Bridge - Marshall County



Maxwell, Iowa

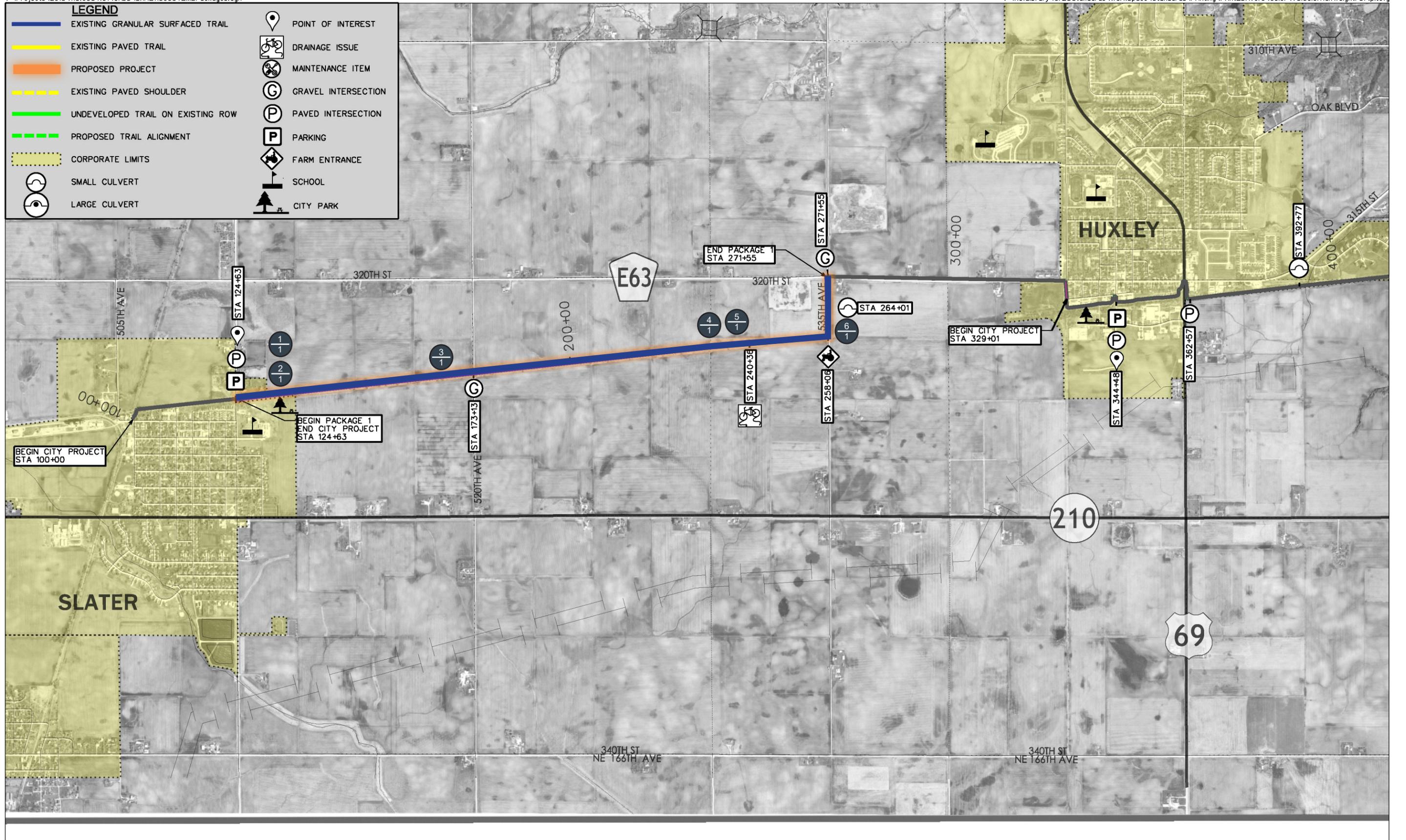


Railroad Bridge - Maxwell



Heart of Iowa Nature Trail





PACKAGE 1 OVERVIEW

This is an active project in the design phase as of August 2018, with anticipated construction in 2019. It consists of 2.77 miles of 10-foot wide paved trail from Slater to 535th Avenue, then north to County Highway E63 west of Huxley.

Points of Interest

- Trailhead and Arboretum Park In Slater, IA (Sta. 124+63)
- Lee Prairie (Sta. 168+13)
- West Elementary School in Slater
- Future trail connection to High Trestle Trail in Slater

Design Considerations

- Paving of two gravel road crossings
- Drainage considerations along 535th Ave
- Drainage consideration near STA. 240+36
- Farm entrance along 535th Ave

OPINION OF PROBABLE PRELIMINARY DESIGN PROJECT COSTS



HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL
 PACKAGE 1 - SLATER TO 535TH AVE
 STORY COUNTY, IOWA
 PROJECT NO. 118.0384
 10/19/2018

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	EXCAVATION, CL 10, RDWY+BORROW	2500	CY	\$8.00	\$ 20,000.00
2	RECLAIMING PRESENT SURFACING MATERIAL	2500	CY	\$10.00	\$ 25,000.00
3	STD/S-F PCC PAV'T, CL C CL 2, 7"	634	SY	\$60.00	\$ 38,040.00
4	AGG, RDWY COVER, 3/8"	1250	TON	\$20.00	\$ 25,000.00
5	SUBDRAIN, STD, PERFORATED, 6"	850	LF	\$12.00	\$ 10,200.00
6	SUBDRAIN OUTLET, DR-303	2	EACH	\$300.00	\$ 600.00
7	RECREATIONAL TRAIL, PCC, 6"	16250	SY	\$32.00	\$ 520,000.00
8	SPECIAL COMPACTION OF SUBGRADE/REC TRAIL	163	STA	\$185.00	\$ 30,155.00
9	DETECTABLE WARNING	100	SF	\$40.00	\$ 4,000.00
10	SAFETY CLOSURE	4	EACH	\$200.00	\$ 800.00
11	PAINTED SYMBOL+LEGEND, WATERBORNE/SOLVNT	5	EACH	\$120.00	\$ 600.00
12	TRAFFIC CONTROL	1	LS	\$7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
13	FLAGGERS		EACH		\$ -
14	MOBILIZATION	1	LS	\$40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
15	SIGNING	1	LS	\$5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
16	MULCHING, BONDED FIBER MATRIX	5	ACRE	\$3,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
17	NATIVE GRASS SEEDING	1	ACRE	\$2,600.00	\$ 2,600.00
18	SEED+FERTILIZE (RURAL)	3	ACRE	\$2,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
19	WILDFLOWER SEEDING	1	ACRE	\$2,700.00	\$ 2,700.00
20	PERIMETER+SLOPE SEDIMENT CNTL DEVICE, 9"	5000	LF	\$3.00	\$ 15,000.00
21	RMVL OF PERIMETER+SLOPE SEDIMNT CNTL DEV	5000	LF	\$1.00	\$ 5,000.00
22	MOBILIZATION, EROSION CONTROL	6	EACH	\$500.00	\$ 3,000.00
23	MOBILIZATION, EMERGENCY EROSION CONTROL	1	EACH	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Subtotal:					\$ 778,000.00
Contingency (10%)					\$ 78,000.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:					\$ 856,000.00
Engineering/Design					\$ 36,500.00
Construction Administration (6%)					\$ 52,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST:					\$ 944,500.00



1/1 Trailhead & arboretum
 STA 124+63



2/1 Trailhead
 STA 124+63



3/1 Standing water in adjacent field
 STA 165+30



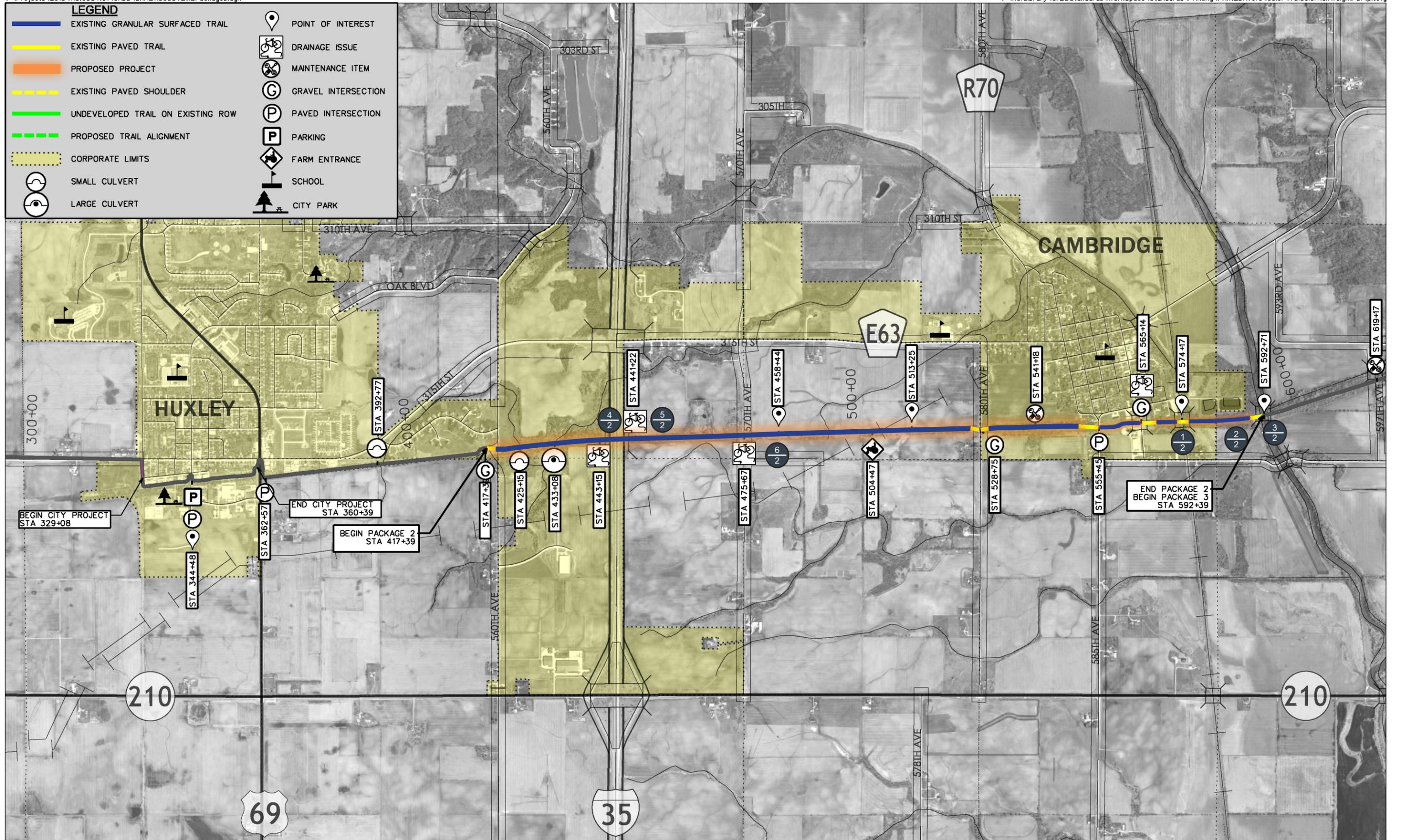
4/1 Lee Prairie Marsh Land
 STA 233+60



5/1 Ecological area
 STA 236+75



6/1 Existing drainage ditch
 STA 258+06



PACKAGE 2 OVERVIEW

This segment of trail totals approximately 3.32 miles. It connects to approximately 1 mile of paved trail within the City of Huxley corporate limits. The City paved their section in 2016. This package spans between the communities of Huxley and Cambridge—crossing over the Union Pacific Rail Road's Mason City Subdivision line and Dakota Access Pipeline ending at the South Skunk River Bridge observation deck. The trail carries riders through the canopies of the surrounding trees, and the observation deck mid-way across the bridge offers riders a secure location from which they can take in the views of the picturesque Skunk Valley.

Points of Interest

- Parking next to trail off of Main Street in Huxley
- Ballard High School
- Ballard Middle School
- Railroad Park in Huxley
- Memorial Park in Huxley
- Huxley Business Park
- City of Cambridge
- Bridge over Union Pacific Railroad
- South Skunk River Bridge

Design Considerations

- Drainage culverts in need of repair or potential replacement
- Paving of three gravel road crossings
- Trail maintenance through Huxley to address gravel spread on top of HMA trail in an attempt to mitigate pavement distress
- Culvert outlets from private property
- Profile and ditch grades needed in low lying areas

OPINION OF PROBABLE PRE-DESIGN PROJECT COSTS



HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL
 PACKAGE 2 - HUXLEY TO CAMBRIDGE
 STORY COUNTY, IOWA
 PROJECT NO. 118.0384
 10/19/2018

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	Excavation, Class 10	3300	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 33,000.00
2	Drainage Issue Small Culvert or Drain Tile	2	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,000.00
3	Pavement, PCC, 8 Inch	336	SY	\$ 45.00	\$ 15,120.00
4	Shared Use Path, PCC, 6 Inch	19450	SY	\$ 32.00	\$ 622,400.00
5	Special Subgrade Preparation for Shared Use Path	23340	SY	\$ 3.00	\$ 70,020.00
6	Detectable Warning	80	SF	\$ 40.00	\$ 3,200.00
7	Signing	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
8	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
9	Right of Way	0	Acre	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
10	Mobilization (5%)	1	LS	-	\$ 38,800.00
				Subtotal:	\$ 798,000.00
				Contingency (20%)	\$ 160,000.00
				TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:	\$ 958,000.00
				Engineering/Design (4%)	\$ 39,000.00
				Construction Administration (6%)	\$ 58,000.00
				Right of Way:	\$ 2,500.00
				TOTAL PROJECT COST:	\$ 1,057,500.00



1/2 Bridge over Union Pacific Rail Road
 STA 574+15



2/2 South Skunk River Bridge
 STA 591+50



3/2 South Skunk River Bridge
 STA 592+30



4/2 Graffiti
 STA 444+00



5/2 Trail embankment and scenic view
 STA 458+44



6/2 Kalsem Prairie Wetland
 STA 513+25



LEGEND

	EXISTING GRANULAR SURFACED TRAIL		POINT OF INTEREST
	EXISTING PAVED TRAIL		DRAINAGE ISSUE
	PROPOSED PROJECT		MAINTENANCE ITEM
	EXISTING PAVED SHOULDER		GRAVEL INTERSECTION
	UNDEVELOPED TRAIL ON EXISTING ROW		PAVED INTERSECTION
	PROPOSED TRAIL ALIGNMENT		PARKING
	CORPORATE LIMITS		FARM ENTRANCE
	SMALL CULVERT		SCHOOL
	LARGE CULVERT		CITY PARK

PACKAGE 3 OVERVIEW

This segment of trail totals approximately 3.13 miles. It starts at the observation deck of the South Skunk River Bridge and carries users halfway to Maxwell – ending at 620th Avenue. This segment of trail crosses the Magellan and Koch Pipelines.

Points of Interest

- City of Cambridge
- Ballard East Elementary School in Cambridge
- Bridge over Union Pacific's Mason City Subdivision
- South Skunk River Bridge
- Center Grove Orchard

Design Considerations

- Review existing bridge column conditions at bridge over Union Pacific's Mason City Subdivision line and South Skunk River
- Paving of two gravel road crossings
- Cattle crossing and slope stability (recent installation of 82" Culvert)
- Fence installation for trail crossing over 597th Ave
- Farm entrances and small culvert repair
- Drainage issues can be addressed with improved rail or ditch profiles
- Underground pipeline utilities crossing

OPINION OF PROBABLE PRE-DESIGN PROJECT COSTS



HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL
 PACKAGE 3 - CAMBRIDGE TO 620TH AVE
 STORY COUNTY, IOWA
 PROJECT NO. 118.0384
 10/19/2018

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	Excavation, Class 10	3100	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 31,000.00
2	Drainage Issue Small Culvert or Drain Tile	1	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
3	Pavement, PCC, 8 Inch	416	SY	\$ 45.00	\$ 18,720.00
4	Shared Use Path, PCC, 6 Inch	18430	SY	\$ 32.00	\$ 589,760.00
5	Special Subgrade Preparation for Shared Use Path	22120	SY	\$ 3.00	\$ 66,360.00
6	Detectable Warning	120	SF	\$ 40.00	\$ 4,800.00
7	Signing	1	LS	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
8	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
9	Right of Way	0	Acre	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
10	Mobilization (5%)	1	LS	-	\$ 35,450.00
Subtotal:					\$ 761,000.00
Contingency (20%)					\$ 153,000.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:					\$ 914,000.00
Engineering/Design (4%)					\$ 37,000.00
Construction Administration (6%)					\$ 55,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST:					\$ 1,006,000.00



1/3 View from Skunk River Bridge Observation Deck
 STA 592+40



2/3 South Skunk River Bridge
 STA 592+80



3/3 Trail-side culvert
 STA 636+00



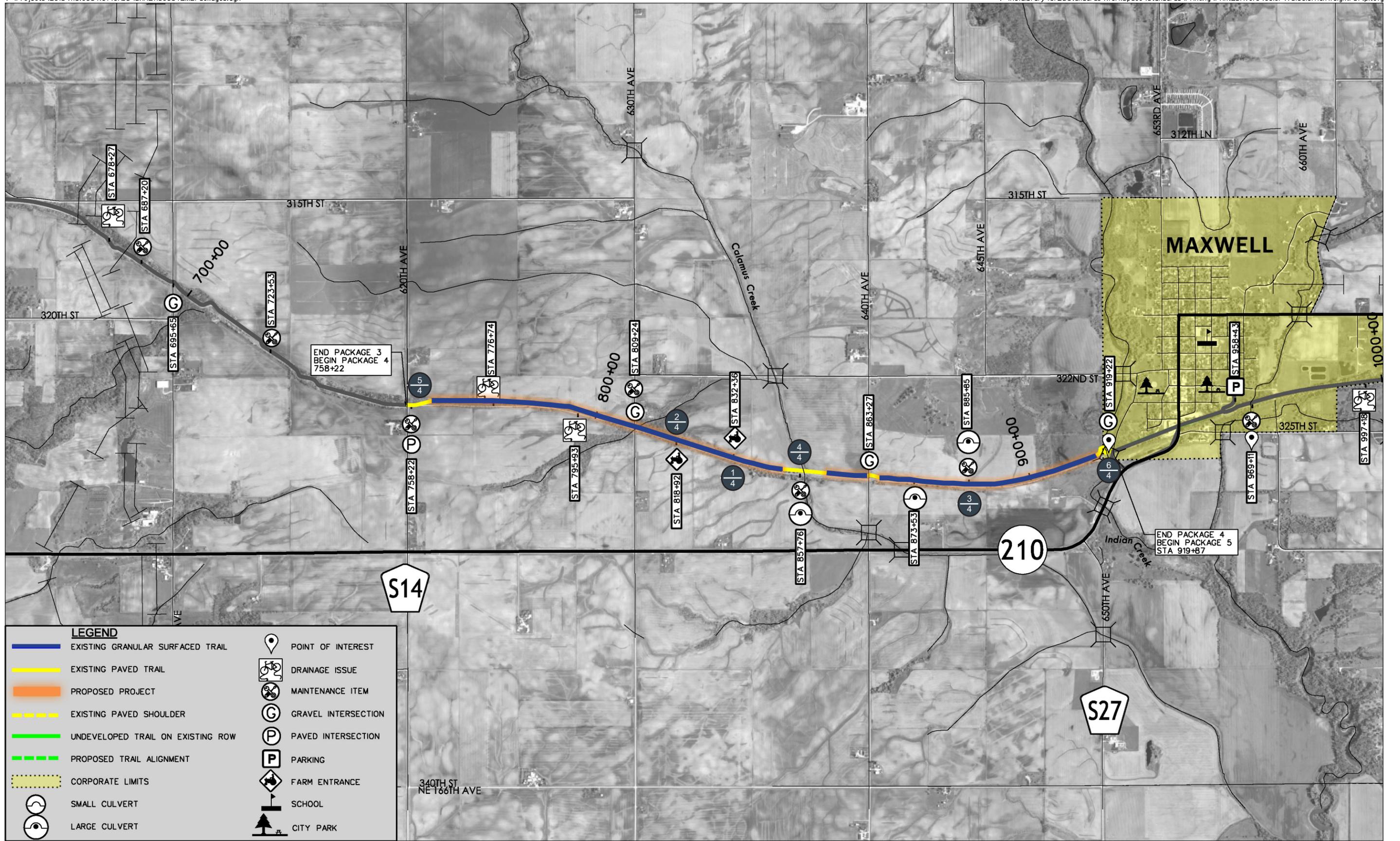
4/3 Scour and slope stability concerns
 STA 636+15



5/3 Sign maintenance
 STA 695+38



6/3 Paving of Trail Roadway Crossings
 STA 696+65



LEGEND

	EXISTING GRANULAR SURFACED TRAIL		POINT OF INTEREST
	EXISTING PAVED TRAIL		DRAINAGE ISSUE
	PROPOSED PROJECT		MAINTENANCE ITEM
	EXISTING PAVED SHOULDER		GRAVEL INTERSECTION
	UNDEVELOPED TRAIL ON EXISTING ROW		PAVED INTERSECTION
	PROPOSED TRAIL ALIGNMENT		PARKING
	CORPORATE LIMITS		FARM ENTRANCE
	SMALL CULVERT		SCHOOL
	LARGE CULVERT		CITY PARK

PACKAGE 4 OVERVIEW

Spanning from 620th Ave to the west edge of the City of Maxwell, this segment is approximately 3 miles in length. The trail crosses both Calamus and Indian Creeks. The arched steel and wood bridge crossing of Indian Creek provides a consistent trail connection south of Maxwell. The crossing of Army Post Road is a potential trailhead location that could accommodate parking for the trail and Maxwell City Park. Several large culverts in this package were observed to be in fair to poor condition.

Points of Interest

- Collins-Maxwell High School
- Maxwell City Park
- City of Maxwell Business district
- Indian Creek
- Calamus Creek
- Story County Freedom Rock

Design Considerations

- Repair damaged sign at 620th Ave
- Paving of three gravel road crossings
- Several farm crossings
- Review culvert over Calamus Creek
- Review culvert at Station 873+53
- Review culvert at Station 885+85

OPINION OF PROBABLE PRE-DESIGN PROJECT COSTS



HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL
 PACKAGE 4 - 620TH AVE TO MAXWELL
 STORY COUNTY, IOWA
 PROJECT NO. 118.0384
 10/19/2018

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	Excavation, Class 10	17100	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 171,000.00
2	Drainage Issue Small Culvert or Drain Tile	0	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
3	Reinforced Concrete Box Replacement	3	EA	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 195,000.00
4	Pavement, PCC, 8 Inch	672	SY	\$ 45.00	\$ 30,240.00
5	Shared Use Path, PCC, 6 Inch	17970	SY	\$ 32.00	\$ 575,040.00
6	Special Subgrade Preparation for Shared Use Path	21560	SY	\$ 3.00	\$ 64,680.00
7	Detectable Warning	120	SF	\$ 40.00	\$ 4,800.00
8	Signing	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
9	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
10	Right of Way	0	Acre	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
11	Mobilization (5%)	1	LS	-	\$ 50,850.00
Subtotal:					\$ 1,122,000.00
Contingency (20%)					\$ 225,000.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:					\$ 1,347,000.00
Engineering/Design (6%)					\$ 81,000.00
Construction Administration (6%)					\$ 81,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST:					\$ 1,509,000.00



1/4 Field entrance
 STA 832+36



2/4 Field entrance
 STA 818+92



3/4 Scour and loss of floor
 STA 885+85



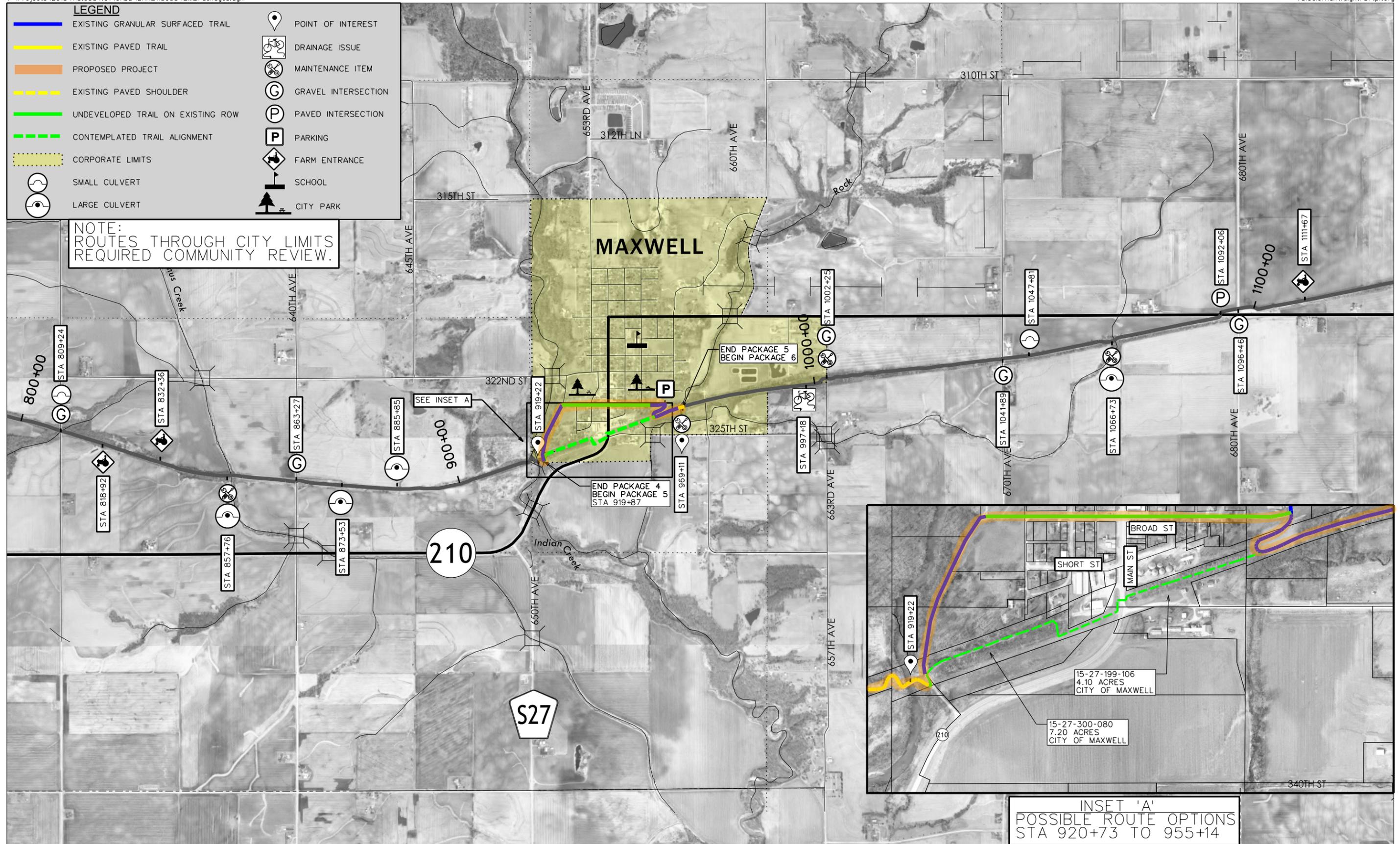
4/4 Loss of wing wall and floor scour
 STA 857+76



5/4 Missing Sign
 STA 758+22



6/4 Existing pedestrian bridge
 STA 919+22



PACKAGE 5 OVERVIEW

This route currently consist of an undeveloped trail connection off of Army Post Road. The City of Maxwell owns two parcels that could be used to complete a connection from Army Post Road to Legion Park. Additional survey would be required to verify the feasibility of the existing topography. The route through Maxwell is subject to change based on the City's review.

Points of Interest

- City of Maxwell
- Legion Park and Soccer Fields

Design Considerations

- Drainage

Right-of-Way (see Exhibit 5 insert)

- Parcel 1527300080
Owner: City of Maxwell
7.20 acres
- Parcel 1527199106
Owner: City of Maxwell
N/A acres (less than 10 acres)

OPINION OF PROBABLE PRE-DESIGN PROJECT COSTS



HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL
PACKAGE 5 - MAXWELL CONNECTION
STORY COUNTY, IOWA
PROJECT NO. 118.0384
10/19/2018

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
2	Excavation, Class 10	2800	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 28,000.00
3	Drainage Issue Small Culvert or Drain Tile	0	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
4	Pavement, PCC, 8 Inch	0	SY	\$ 45.00	\$ -
5	Shared Use Path, PCC, 6 Inch	5480	SY	\$ 32.00	\$ 175,360.00
6	Special Subgrade Preparation for Shared Use Path	6570	SY	\$ 3.00	\$ 19,710.00
7	Detectable Warning	40	SF	\$ 40.00	\$ 1,600.00
8	Signing	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
9	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
10	Pavement Markings	20	STA	\$ 55.00	\$ 1,100.00
11	Right of Way	0	Acre	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
12	Mobilization (5%)	1	LS	-	\$ 13,800.00
Subtotal:					\$ 276,000.00
Contingency (20%)					\$ 56,000.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:					\$ 332,000.00
Engineering/Design (6%)					\$ 20,000.00
Construction Administration (6%)					\$ 20,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST:					\$ 372,000.00



1/5 Old railroad bridge abutment
STA 919+22



2/5 Story County Freedom Rock



3/5 Downtown Maxwell



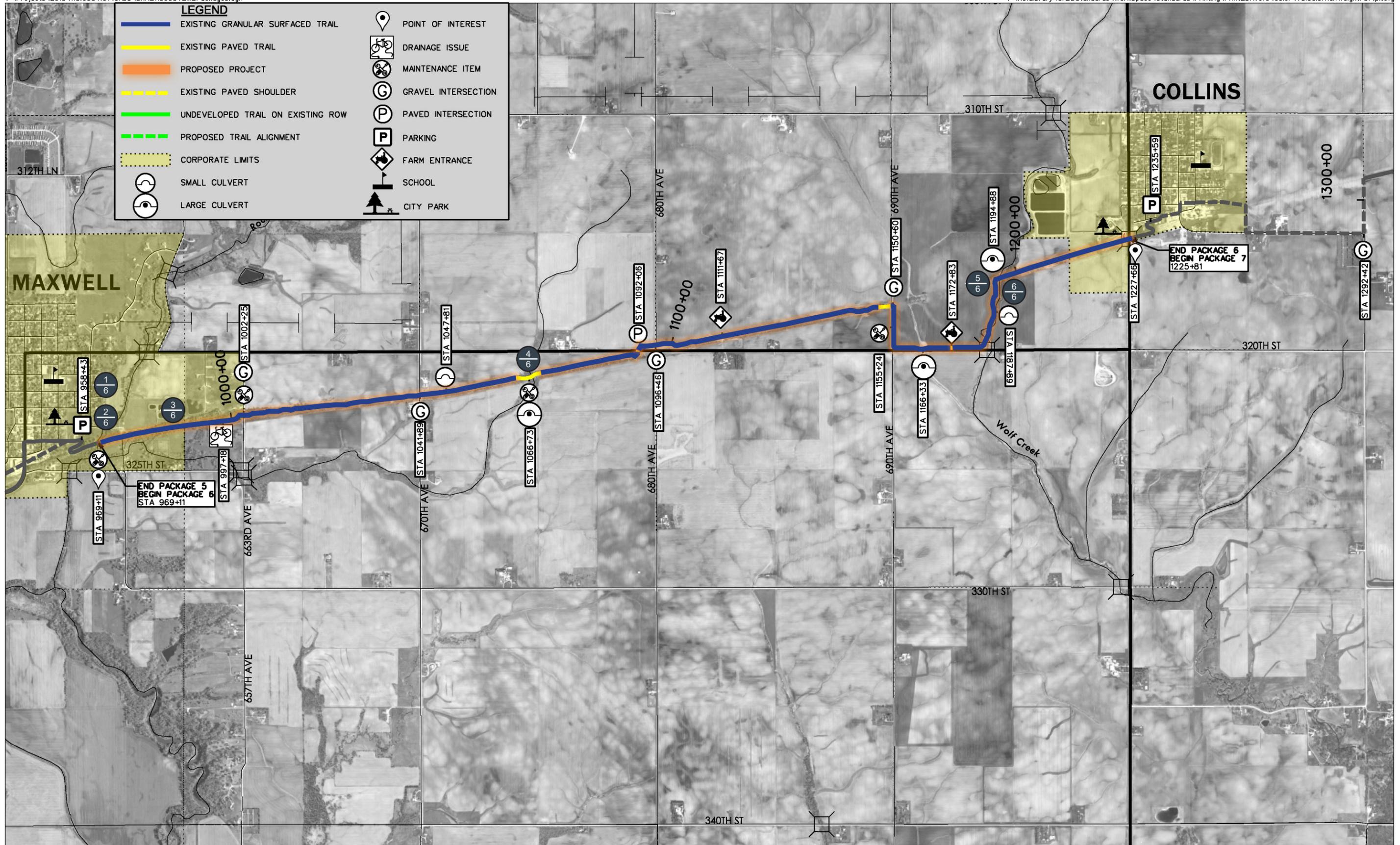
4/5 Maxwell City Park



5/5 Trail bridge at Legion Park
STA 969+11



6/5 Collins-Maxwell Middle/High School



PACKAGE 6 OVERVIEW

This segment of trail totals approximately 4.9 miles and spans between Maxwell to Collins. This segment is lined by dense trees and plants that have become overgrown in some locations. Also, this segment has a location that skews from the old railroad grade and there is evidence of flooding from Wolf Creek.

Points of Interest

- Legion Park in Maxwell with an old rail arched bridge
- Nature areas next to Wolf Creek – Potential fishing holes
- Trailside park in Collins
- Collins City Park with baseball fields, playground, sand volleyball court, tennis court, parking, restroom and concessions facilities

Design Considerations

- Safety fence over arched bridge
- Tree trimming
- Paving of four gravel road intersections
- Review four large culvert for potential maintenance items
- Removal of yard waste from county right-of-way
- Paved connection to paved crossing of Iowa 210
- Portions of trail adjacent to Wolf Creek experience washout and suffer from poor drainage; further drainage review will be required during design
- Utilities adjacent to US 65

OPINION OF PROBABLE PRE-DESIGN PROJECT COSTS



HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL
 PACKAGE 6 - MAXWELL TO COLLINS
 STORY COUNTY, IOWA
 PROJECT NO. 118.0384
 10/19/2018

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
2	Excavation, Class 10	4800	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 48,000.00
3	Drainage Issue Small Culvert or Drain Tile	2	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,000.00
4	Reinforced Concrete Box Repair	1	EA	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
4	Pavement, PCC, 8 Inch	672	SY	\$ 45.00	\$ 30,240.00
5	Shared Use Path, PCC, 6 Inch	28530	SY	\$ 32.00	\$ 912,960.00
6	Special Subgrade Preparation for Shared Use Path	34230	SY	\$ 3.00	\$ 102,690.00
7	Detectable Warning	160	SF	\$ 40.00	\$ 6,400.00
8	Signing	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
9	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
10	Right of Way	0	Acre	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
11	Mobilization (5%)	1	LS	-	\$ 56,800.00
Subtotal:					\$ 1,193,000.00
Contingency (20%)					\$ 239,000.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:					\$ 1,432,000.00
Engineering/Design (6%)					\$ 86,000.00
Construction Administration (6%)					\$ 86,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST:					\$ 1,604,000.00



1/6 Former railroad bridge converted to trail use
 STA 969+11



2/6 Fence repair needed
 STA 969+11



3/6 Trail entrance
 STA 974+40



4/6 Large culvert
 STA 1066+73



5/6 Wash-out of granular trail
 1190+00



6/6 Large culvert
 STA 1194+88



PACKAGE 7 OVERVIEW

This final segment leading to the eastern edge of Story County has a proposed alignment of approximately 3.6 miles. It begins at Hwy 65 and runs through existing sidewalk and trail through Trailside Park in Collins. The proposed trail continues out of Trailside Park along the shoulders of existing city streets. Due to former railroad ROW now being in private holdings larger than 10 acres, the alignment of the trail will be placed along roadway and utility easements until reaching county-owned land east of Collins. Private property north of 310th Street could potentially carry the final stretch of Story County's portion of the HOINT to the Marshall County trailhead just east of 730th St. The route through Collins is subject to change based on the City's review.

Points of Interest

- Trailside Park in Collins
- Trailhead to Marshall County

Design Considerations

- Only portion of trail not existing with established granular surface
- Will require review of topographic information
- Potential clearing and grubbing in overgrown right-of-way

Right-of-Way (see Exhibit 7 insert)

As the entirety of the railroad line was not purchased and kept as trail right-of-way during abandonment, some portions of the trail will need to follow existing Story County right-of-way between Collins and the trailhead in Marshall County. Depending on the amount of right-of-way, trail easements may need to be sought from private landowners to complete this package.

OPINION OF PROBABLE PRE-DESIGN PROJECT COSTS



HEART OF IOWA NATURE TRAIL
 PACKAGE 7 -COLLINS TO MARSHALL COUNTY
 STORY COUNTY, IOWA
 PROJECT NO. 118.0384
 10/19/2018

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE
1	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
2	Excavation, Class 10	3600	CY	\$ 10.00	\$ 36,000.00
3	Drainage Issue Small Culvert or Drain Tile	2	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,000.00
4	Pavement, PCC, 8 Inch	384	SY	\$ 45.00	\$ 17,280.00
5	Shared Use Path, PCC, 6 Inch	21320	SY	\$ 35.00	\$ 746,200.00
6	Special Subgrade Preparation for Shared Use Path	25580	SY	\$ 5.00	\$ 127,900.00
7	Detectable Warning	120	SF	\$ 40.00	\$ 4,800.00
8	Signing	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
9	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
10	Right of Way	3.7	Acre	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 37,000.00
11	Mobilization (5%)	1	LS	-	\$ 50,250.00
Subtotal:					\$ 1,055,000.00
Contingency (20%)					\$ 211,000.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST:					\$ 1,266,000.00
Engineering/Design (6%)					\$ 51,000.00
Construction Administration (6%)					\$ 76,000.00
Right of Way:					\$ 10,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST:					\$ 1,403,000.00



1/7 Trailside Park connection



2/7 Downtown Collins



3/7 Collins City Park Centennial Monument



4/7 Former railroad grade at 720th avenue
 STA 124+63



5/7 Intersection of 310th street and 730th avenue
 STA 1417+02



6/7 Marshall County Trailhead
 STA 1417+63

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Priorities

The first priority to complete is **Package 1**, as external funding has already been acquired and the project is expected to be completed in 2019. It has the added benefit of being a short on-street connection away from the High Trestle Trail, which is only 9.5 trail miles to the famous High Trestle Trail Bridge. The expansion of the paved trail west of Huxley on road and former railroad right-of-way creates a direct connection from Huxley to the High Trestle Trail, which also links Slater to Ankeny—reducing the need to ride on roadway shoulders to link southern Story County to the northern reaches of the Des Moines Metro. Additionally, it creates a Safe Route to School for children living in Slater but attending school in Huxley, and for bicycle commuters who work in the Huxley Business Park.

Priority #	Package #	Projected Cost
1	1	\$781,500
2	2	\$748,500
3	7	\$1,081,000
4	3	\$1,162,000
5	4	\$242,000
6	6	\$1,423,000
7	5	\$1,253,000

The second priority is **Package 2**. The City of Huxley received a CIRTPA TAP grant for a portion of the trail. The trail connection to Cambridge will create a Safe Route to School for students of Ballard Middle and Ballard High School who live in Cambridge.

Priority 3 is **Package 7**, in order to address the trail gap between the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail in Story County, and the portion of the trail in Marshall County.

The next three priorities move from west to east in unincorporated Story County. **Package 3** paves the trail leading up to the South Skunk River Bridge and begins replacing the lime surface with pavement in rural Story County.

Package 4 lies entirely on rail bank through rural Story County. As one of the more financially costly packages, prioritizing the project farther down this list allows for an extended period of fundraising and budgeting to help pay for construction.

The final rural section is **Package 6**, which connects Maxwell to Collins. It is the most expensive portion of the project phases, and prioritizing it as a long-range project has the same fundraising and budgeting benefits as Package 4.

The final priority in this Master Plan is **Package 5**. This portion of the trail is completely within the corporate boundaries of Maxwell, and can be supplemented by temporary on-street and sidewalk movement prior to construction.

GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Most grants require some level of match money. A significant investment that is greater than the minimum match required indicates to application review committees that the county places a high priority on completing the project. This commitment should be officially documented in some way, such as through the Capital Improvement Program or a resolution from the County. Donations from private sources typically help to leverage state and federal grant dollars. Even small contributions from local private sources help make applications for grant programs more compelling, as they indicate strong local support for the project. Also, potential donors/grantors prefer to see evidence that there will be enough funding in place for a project to be completed. The table and descriptions that follow detail the funding programs for which the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail would be eligible.

Due Date	Program	Max Award	Approximate funding in program (may vary)	Match Required	Date Funds Available	Completion Date
January 15 (quarterly thru year)	Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT)	45% of the final project cost, not to exceed \$1 Million	\$5M	At least 65% of cost must be secured, grant is last dollar in	Upon award	As per the grant agreement
January	Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant	\$99,999	\$2M	None	March	Within 12 months
January or February	Prairie Meadows Legacy Grant	\$1 Million	N/A	At least 50% of cost secured, limited to 25% of project budget	March or April	Within 12 months
April and October	PeopleforBikes Community Grant	\$10,000	\$50,000 per cycle	50%	December	Provide updates every 6 months
May	Wellmark Large MATCH Grant	\$100,000	N/A	100%	September	2 years
May 1	Iowa Great Places	\$400,000 (\$185,000 avg)	N/A	100%	October	As per the grant agreement
June	Wellmark Small MATCH Grant	\$25,000	N/A	50%	December	2 years
July 1	State Recreational Trails	None specified (highest award was \$780,000)	\$1M	25%	Upon authorization	As per the grant agreement
August 15	Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) City Parks & Open Spaces	\$50,000 (for cities with populations up to 1,000)	Varies annually	None	October	As per the grant agreement (~2 years)
August 15	Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) City Parks & Open Spaces	\$75,000 (for cities with populations between 1,001 and 5,000)	Varies annually	None	October	As per the grant agreement (~2 years)
August 15	Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) County Conservation	None specified	40% of statewide county conservation account	None	October	As per the grant agreement
October 1	Federal Recreational Trails	\$5,000 min – no upper limit (highest award was \$490,000)	\$1.3M	20%	Upon authorization	As per the grant agreement
December 1	Statewide STP TAP	None specified	\$1M	20%	Upon authorization	As per the grant agreement
February	CIRTPA TAP	None specified	\$250,000 (anticipated)	20%	FFY 2020-2023	As per the grant agreement

PRIVATE GRANT DESCRIPTIONS

Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant

This statewide program awards grants between \$100 and \$99,999. A variable amount of funds, which may be near \$2 million, is available to be awarded in four categories: Arts & Culture, Economic Development, Education, and Health and Human Services. Trails are eligible under the Economic Development category. The Community Betterment Grant requires that the project be completed within a year.

Prairie Meadows Legacy Grant

Prairie Meadows also offers a Legacy Grant for requests of \$100,000 to \$1 million, which must have at least 50 percent of the project budget secured. The applicant cannot apply for both the Community Betterment Grant and the Legacy Grant for the same project.

PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program

This national program awards up to \$10,000 to worthy projects and programs that support bicycling. The grant cannot fund more than 50 percent of the project budget. The program is competitive, with only 10 to 15 percent of proposals being funded. There are two grant cycles each year, with applications opening in June for the fall submittal, and in December for the spring submittal. The process requires a letter of interest prior to submitting a full application.

Story County Community Foundation

This local program offers up to \$6,000 for Community Betterment Grants. Awards are based on community needs and identified solutions. The Foundation also offers an invitation-only Major Grant of up to \$25,000. Projects must show innovative approaches to addressing issues and building community strengths, present a clear work plan, and demonstrate public involvement, vision, collaboration, good management, and a plan for future sustainability beyond the funding period.

Wellmark MATCH Grant

Matching Assets to Community Health (MATCH), is a grant awarded by the Wellmark Foundation to promote policies and projects that help communities in Iowa and South Dakota create safe, healthy, and active environments. Two challenge grant opportunities are available—the Large MATCH and Small MATCH. The Large MATCH program awards up to \$100,000 that must have a \$1 to \$1 local contribution. The Small MATCH program awards up to \$25,000, requiring a 50% local contribution. For example, a \$50,000 large grant must have a local match of \$50,000; a \$10,000 small grant must have a \$5,000 local match. Applications are due in March each year.

PUBLIC GRANT DESCRIPTIONS

Public Funding Opportunities

Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) – Iowa Economic Development Authority

The CAT program is designed to assist communities in the development and creation of multiple purpose attraction or tourism facilities. The program received a \$5 million appropriation for FY 2018. CAT funding is limited to 45% of total project costs and must be the “last dollar” to complete the project. Applications are reviewed by the Enhance Iowa Board. Broad local support, both philosophical and financial, is necessary for a CAT application to be successful.

Iowa Great Places – Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs provides up to \$400,000 per award to communities and nonprofit organizations. Communities must demonstrate a strong vision for innovation, and strive to enhance community vitality and quality of life while maintaining its unique character. Awardees are designated as an Iowa Great Place. The average award is \$185,000. Letters of intent are usually due by May 1, with a grant application deadline in early June.

Resource Enhancement and Protection Grant (REAP) – Iowa Department of Natural Resources

REAP funds are appropriated by the Iowa Legislature and divided amongst various categories, with 15% going to City Parks and Open Space. Cities with a population up to 1,000 are eligible for up to \$50,000, and cities with a population between 1,001 and 5,000 are eligible for up to \$75,000 per project. Applications are due on August 15th each year.

County Conservation funds are drawn from 20% of the total REAP appropriation. Of this, 30% of the funds are distributed equally and automatically to all 99 counties, while another 30% is distributed to counties based upon population. The remaining 40% is allocated through competitive grants. Counties are eligible to apply for the competitive funds if they are dedicating at least 22¢ per \$1,000 of the assessed value of taxable property in the county for county conservation purposes.

Regional Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – Central Iowa Regional Transportation Planning Alliance (CIRTPA)

CIRTPA has roughly \$1 Million in its TAP fund for FFY 2020-2023. The current expectation is to expend roughly \$250,000 per year in grant money.

Statewide Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) – Iowa DOT

TAP is a portion of the Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funding received by the State of Iowa. Applicants compete on a statewide level for a portion of the TAP fund, which may be used for a wide array of projects, including trails and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

State Recreational Trails – Iowa DOT

The amount of State Recreational Trails funding varies from year to year, but it is often between \$1 million and \$3 million. The maximum award is 75 percent of the project cost. Applications are due on July 1 of each year.

Federal Recreational Trails – Iowa DOT

The Federal Recreational Trails program typically provides about \$1 million annually for projects in Iowa, with a maximum award of 80 percent of the project cost. Applications are due on October 1 each year.

