



CITY OF WAUWATOSA  
MEMO

To: **Financial Affairs Committee**

From: **William Wehrley, City Engineer**  
**Stephanie Wilson, Landscape Architect**

Date: **April 4, 2023**

Subject: **Memo from the Engineering Department requesting authorization to submit an application for WisDOT Transportation Alternatives Program for multi-use trail on Wisconsin Avenue**

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**A. Issue**

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a state of Wisconsin legislative program that was authorized in Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, the federal transportation act that signed into law in 2015. The Engineering Department is requesting approval to continue the TAP application process for construction of a multi-use trail on Wisconsin Avenue.

**B. Background/Options**

The Engineering Department has submitted a grant application for the construction of a multiuse trail on the north side of Wisconsin Avenue and a portion of Mayfair Road as well as improved marked crosswalks along the route to provide safer crossings across Wisconsin Avenue at regular intervals (see map for limits of proposed route). The addition of the multi-use trail will complement other City of Wauwatosa and Milwaukee Regional Medical Center (MRMC) projects that are set to occur in the next few years to provide a more complete bicycle and pedestrian network that serves a wide range of users and abilities. With the inclusion of the multiuse trail on Wisconsin Avenue, an off-street connection of the Oak Leaf Trail on both the west and east will be completed. Access points along the route include elementary schools and Safe Routes to School, major employment hubs, connections to multimodal (BRT) and Wisconsin Avenue Park (The Ability Center is currently fundraising for major improvements at this park).

City staff has coordinated with City of Milwaukee, MRMC and County Parks to ensure that the proposed project enhances the regional network and complements private and public projects in the area.

**C. Strategic Plan (Area of Focus)**

Priority 2: Public Safety – Proactively address pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular safety  
Priority 3: Infrastructure – Ensure the City's infrastructure supports public health through multi-modal transportation and recreation opportunities

**D. Fiscal Impact**

Successful applicants must provide at least a 20% local match for TAP projects, resulting in a

minimum \$444,914 required match for a \$2,224,574 project budget. If funding is awarded the capital improvement program will include the required matching funds for the Common Council's consideration.

**E. Recommendation**

Approval of a resolution supporting the application for grant funds from the Transportation Alternatives Program in the amount of \$2,224,574, with a City match of \$444,914.