

Exciting Trail Updates!

1 message

Linn County Trails Association <treasurer@linncountytrails.org>

Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 2:03 AM

Reply-To: Treasurer LCTA <treasurer@linncountytrails.org>

To: David Dechant <ddechanch24@gmail.com>

**LCTA Board members traveling in style**

Lots of work gets done at and between the monthly board meetings from this all volunteer group!

Thanks to a few of our board members - Nadine Brock, Dave Dechant and Steve Hershner for their efforts to Make Trails Happen!

If you are interested in volunteering with trail activities, email: contributor@linncountytrails.org

Did you know that LCTA is in the final stretch of a two-year capital campaign. We've raised nearly \$200,000 through individual and business donations ranging in size from \$20 to \$10,000 to go with a \$50,000 grant from the Hall-Perrine Foundation? But, we still need to raise \$122,000 by the end of December! Your help is greatly needed!

Donate at <https://linncountytrails.org/s...> or send a check to Linn County Trails Association, PO Box 2681, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

TRAIL NEWS YOU CAN USE
ConnectCR and Grant updates!



It's Happening - ConnectCR Update

Check out the latest update and great photos from @ConnectCR

<https://connectcr.org/connectc...>

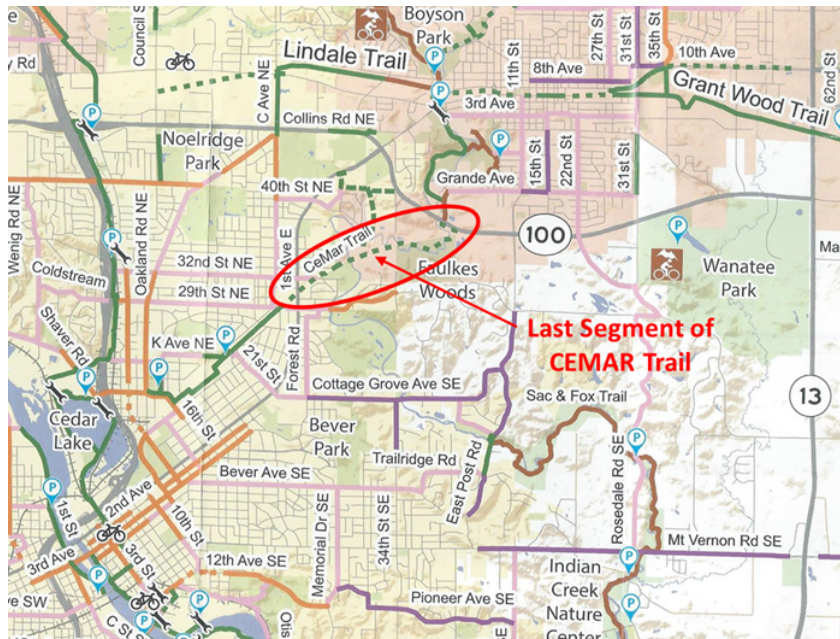
It's really happening!!

- Flood protection and Shaver Road trail crossing work is well underway
- ConnectCR work to install a trail and boardwalk on the east side of Cedar Lake will begin this fall
- Alliant Energy Lightline bridge across the Cedar River is in the engineering design phase with groundbreaking anticipated in 2023

The completed project brings together two major projects in Cedar Rapids--the revitalization of Cedar Lake and the creation of an iconic Alliant Energy LightLine pedestrian/trail bridge across the Cedar River south of downtown.

The bridge will connect the NewBo and Czech Village neighborhoods and on a larger scale it will connect the east side and west side of Cedar Rapids. Revitalization of Cedar Lake creates a nature oasis in the heart of the city and is home to many types of wildlife, including deer, fox, mink, pelicans, turtles and many others.

The bridge and the lake are connected by and build upon the 3rd Street biking corridor which is part of the Cedar Valley Nature Trail from Cedar Falls to Iowa City and connects our trail system to two coast-to-coast trails: the American Discovery Trail and the Great American Rail-Trail.



CEMAR Trail: August 9, 2022. The Iowa Economic Development Authority announced a third round of funding from Destination Iowa to support quality of life and tourism.

The City of Marion has been awarded \$3 million toward the development of Marion's Central Plaza into a four-season gathering space and completion of the last segment of the CEMAR Trail connecting downtown Marion. The last segment from Highway 100 to the 1st Avenue bridge undercrossing should be completed by 2025.

The Future is Bright Recent Grant Awards



Cedar Valley Nature Trail: July 21, 2022 – The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) awarded \$3.5 million jointly to Black Hawk and Linn County Conservation to pave 16 miles of the Cedar Valley Nature Trail. This project would complete the original 52-mile trail, connecting the Waterloo/Cedar Falls and Cedar Rapids metropolitan areas entirely by the trail.

<https://www.linncountyiowa.gov...>

Fully paving and completing the Cedar Valley Nature Trail has been a goal across numerous urban and rural communities since the project began in the mid-1980s. The trail, through 11 cities and five counties in the region, makes it a popular recreational attraction in the state of Iowa. It serves as the backbone trail for many existing and planned connecting trails providing numerous benefits to local residents and visitors to our communities.

PLAZA amenities include a dedicated performance space, ice skating loop, fire tables and seating, interactive play sculptures and green space additions. The award represents 40 percent of the total project investment of \$9,014,000.



This grant award allows the final trail hard surfacing connection from just east of La Porte City south to Highway 150 at Urbana to be made all at once. Final project design work is underway and paving could be completed as early as fall 2023.



ConnectCR Amenities: Date Unknown – The City of Cedar Rapids is currently waiting to hear from Iowa Governor Reynolds and Economic Development Authority on their revised application for \$8.4 million in Destination Iowa funding.



On the Czech Village side, funding would cover the 10-acre Czech Village Greenway Park south of downtown, an open space along the river between 16th and 21st avenues SW, that would tie into the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library to highlight local themes and offer various amenities, including a playground. A reimagining of the historic roundhouse structure damaged in the 2008 flood would anchor the north half of the park. A pedestrian promenade spanning from the 16th Avenue commercial corridor to the park will connect the roundhouse with destinations such as the Czech Museum, African American Museum of Iowa, CSPA Hall, NewBo City Market and other attractions.

For instant trail news during the week, check out our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/lctra...>

For detailed monthly trail updates, construction schedules, etc. check out the August 2022 Trail updates!

<https://linncountytrails.org/u...>



Ice Cream! There are lots of reasons to take the bike trails to Newbo!

The funds would enhance outdoor recreation around the greenway in the Cedar Lake to LightLine Bridge ConnectCR corridor along the Cedar River in Czech Village and New Bohemia.

<https://www.thegazette.com/loc...>

On the NewBo side, funding would support the ConnectCR Park that will sit at the landing of the LightLine Bridge, connecting the east- and westside core neighborhoods and a revitalized Cedar Lake north of downtown. The ConnectCR park includes pedestrian and bicycle amenities for those using the nationwide trail, in addition to historic exhibits that pay homage to the area's industrial roots.



Or come to the Downtown Farmers Market for a chat!

Hey make LCTA Smile and Use Amazon SMILE! We have already raised close to \$700 through Amazon Smile!!! It is really simple to set up.

"To get started with Amazon Smile, visit smile.amazon.com on your web browser and sign in with your Amazon.com credentials. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice. Select your charity and start shopping! To join Amazon.Smile from the mobile app, open the app and find "Settings" in the main menu. Tap on "Amazon Smile" and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone."

Whether it be the Linn County Trails Association (our preference of course) or some other registered charity you support, this is a program worth signing up for if you are an online Amazon shopper. It all adds up . . .

<https://www.aboutamazon.com/im...>



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