

Form Name: Access to Transit
Submission Time: December 14, 2023 2:35 pm
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IP Address: 50.171.1.194
Unique ID: 1174518236
Location: 42.1047, -87.7566

Name	Andrew Brown
Title	Assistant Director of Economic Development and Planning
Email	abrown@vopf.com
Telephone #	(708) 283-5622
Project Type (Choose one)	Phase II Engineering and Construction
Select all that apply to your project:	Multi-use paths Sidewalks and sidewalk connections
1. Plan or study name (Please provide a link to the referenced planning document):	Pending Cook County Forest Preserve Sauk Trail Woods Vision Plan VOPF Park Forest Comprehensive Housing Plan 2018 VOPF Village of Park Forest Strategic Plan for Land Use and Economic Development 2008
2. Status (e.g. complete/underway):	Completed and Underway
3. Please provide the relevant page numbers of the plan:	VOPF Park Forest Comprehensive Housing Plan 2018 (page 16); VOPF Village of Park Forest Strategic Plan for Land Use and Economic Development 2008 (page EN-4)
1. Please provide a narrative describing the project that includes the location and the type of improvement(s) proposed. (250-350 words):	<p>This project initiates Phase II Design Engineering and Construction to secure grant funds for detailed planning and actual construction for a crucial connection between open space, economic opportunities, and transit. Phase II Design Engineering will encompass tasks like shared-use path installation, crosswalk enhancements, ditch grading, and more.</p> <p>The completed multi-use path will connect the Eastgate neighborhood to the Village Downtown, integrating it with the existing network inaccessible to residents north of 26th Street and east of Western Avenue. This will also help connect residents to Thorn Creek Trail and Old Plank Trail users, enhancing access to the Forest Preserve and connections to Downtown Park Forest.</p> <p>The application extends the path from Norwood Boulevard, crossing Western Avenue, and connecting to Thorn Creek Trail. It's essential for a needy neighborhood and a crucial connection to open space and economic opportunities.</p>

2. Please describe how this project will help to increase transit ridership and make transit more accessible to riders. Please include the specific bus routes, bus stops, or train stations that will be impacted by the improvement(s). (200-300 words):

This project will seek to continue the work of Cook County Invest in Cook funded Phase I Preliminary Engineering to complete a critical connection from open space and commerce to a neighborhood in need. The project scope includes all Phase II Design Engineering and Construction for a multi-use path along a utility right-of-way (ROW) north of 26th Street. This path would connect the Eastgate neighborhood with DownTown retail options and open space of Sauk Trail Woods and provide much better access to Pace Bus Route 366. The estimated work to be completed in the Phase II Design and Construction for the multi-use path would encompass detailed planning and actual construction activities to establish a vital connection between open space and a needy neighborhood, including shared-use path installation, crosswalk enhancements, ditch grading, traffic signal modifications, and parkway restoration.

The Village anticipates a multitude of benefits as a result of this project and the follow-on project being completed. The final construction of the multi-use path will connect the Eastgate neighborhood to the Village DownTown and rest of the Village through the rest of the Village's bike and pedestrian network, which is currently cut off from all residents north of 26th Street and east of Western Avenue. Additionally, many recreational options will be made available - not only to the residents of Eastgate neighborhood - but also to patrons of the Thorn Creek Trail and the Old Plank Trail which circumvents this part of Park Forest. Currently, Thorn Creek Trail connects to the sidewalk at Allegheny Street, but biking infrastructure becomes inadequate. This improvement would allow for pedestrians and bicyclists to make their way towards retail opportunities from Thorn Creek Trail to DownTown Park Forest; strengthening amenities for the trail and increasing clientele DownTown Park Forest.

This project was conceived in 2008 with the adoption of the Village of Park Forest's Comprehensive Plan: Strategic Plan for Land Use and Economic Development. The Village's comprehensive plan included the following implementation strategy for the Eastgate neighborhood, "capitalize on the electric utility right-of-way and forest preserve land to build a multi-use trail along 26th Street to Western Avenue." (Page EN-4, Strategic Plan for Land Use and Economic Development). During fiscal year 2022, the Forest Preserve of Cook County is implemented projects at Sauk Trail Woods and developed engagement opportunities for the region to better utilize the green infrastructure. Additionally the Village of Park Forest currently has a separate multi-use path approved for construction through IDOT ITEP funds, which will be constructed along Forest Boulevard from the Village's DownTown to Norwood Boulevard.

This application will extend the planned multi-use path from Norwood Boulevard, run east down 26th Street where it will cross Western Avenue at the signalized intersection, and continue east on 26th Street where it will connect to Thorn Creek Trail. This project will provide the Village with funds to implement a critical multi-use path for a neighborhood in need and a essential connection from open space and economic opportunity.

1. Estimated Phase II Engineering cost: 250000.00

2. Estimated Construction cost: 2000000.00

3. Estimated total project budget (Phase II Engineering cost + Construction cost): 1000000.00

Estimated Phase I Engineering cost: 200000

What is your Phase I Engineering status? Underway but not submitted to IDOT

When is Phase I Engineering scheduled to be submitted? It will be submitted by the end of December 2023.

File <https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/15645618243>



www.villageofparkforest.com

Mayor

Joseph A. Woods

December 4, 2023

Village Trustees

Tiffani Graham
Theresa M. Settles
Maya Hardy
Erin I. Slone
John V. Moore
Randall J. White Jr.

To Whom It May Concern at the Regional Transportation Authority,

I am writing to express our sincere gratitude and support for the Village of Park Forest's application for the RTA's Access to Transit Program. Our Village aligns impeccably with the program's objectives, particularly in enhancing the Pace Bus stop at Western & Algonquin Street and improving pedestrian and bicycle access near Downtown Park Forest and the Cook County Forest Preserve.

Village Clerk

Sheila McGann

Enclosed, you will find details of our proposal to fund engineering design for a multi-use path near Downtown Park Forest and the Cook County Forest Preserve. This project promises to significantly enhance connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists, benefiting not only local transit users but also contributing to safer, more accessible routes in the area.

Village Manager

Thomas Mick

Village Hall

350 Victory Drive
Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 748-1112

We are proud of our ongoing collaboration with RTA and other regional transportation agencies, and we recognize the importance of maximizing the impact of RTA funds. The approval of this project would be a vital step towards securing additional funding, leveraging the completed Phase 2 report as a foundation.

DownTown

Management Office

226 Forest Blvd.
(708) 503-8153

On behalf of the 22,000 residents of Park Forest, I extend our heartfelt thanks for considering our project for design engineering support. For any queries regarding this application, please feel free to contact Thomas K. Mick, Village Manager, at 708-748-1129, tmick@vopf.com, or Andrew Brown, Assistant Director of Economic Development and Planning, at 708-283-5622, ajbrown@vopf.com.

Fire Department

156 Indianwood Blvd.
(708) 748-5605

Freedom Hall

410 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 747-0580

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Woods
Mayor
Village of Park Forest

Police Department

200 Lakewood Blvd.
(708) 748-4700

**Recreation and
Parks Department**

350 Victory Drive
(708) 748-2005

**Village of Orland Park
26th Street Shared-Use Path
Norwood Boulevard to Allegheny Street**

Preliminary Estimate of Probable Construction Costs

Date: 12/12/2023

Construction Cost	Total Cost
Earthwork, Removals	\$140,000
Subbase, Base, Pavement	\$380,000
Erosion Control, Site Restoration, and Landscaping	\$240,000
Storm sewer system (inlets, pipes, and flared end sections)	\$160,000
Crosswalk Installations and Traffic Signal Modifications	\$240,000
Furnishings: Benches, Bike Racks, etc.	\$60,000
Traffic Control	\$40,000
Mobilization	\$120,000
Construction Layout and Engineer's Field Office	\$20,000
30% Contingency	\$600,000
Total Construction Cost	\$2,000,000

Phase II Engineering Costs	Total Cost
Engineering and Plan Preparation (10%)	\$ 200,000
Land Acquisition Services	\$ 20,000
Wetland Mitigation (0.1 acres @ \$150,000/acre)	\$ 15,000
Permits and Agency Review Fees	\$ 15,000
Total Project Cost	\$ 250,000

Phase Costs	Total Cost
Preliminary Engineering – Phase I (11%)	\$ 200,000
Design Engineering – Phase II (13%)	\$ 250,000
Construction Engineering – Phase III (10%)	\$ 200,000
Construction	\$ 2,000,000
Right-Of-Way Acquisition/Easements	\$ 60,000
Utility Relocation	\$ -
Total Project Cost	\$ 2,710,000

Proposed Forest Blvd. MULTI-USE PATH (Construction Funded Through ITEP) (Blue)

PROPOSED 26TH STREET MULTI-USE PATH (GREEN)

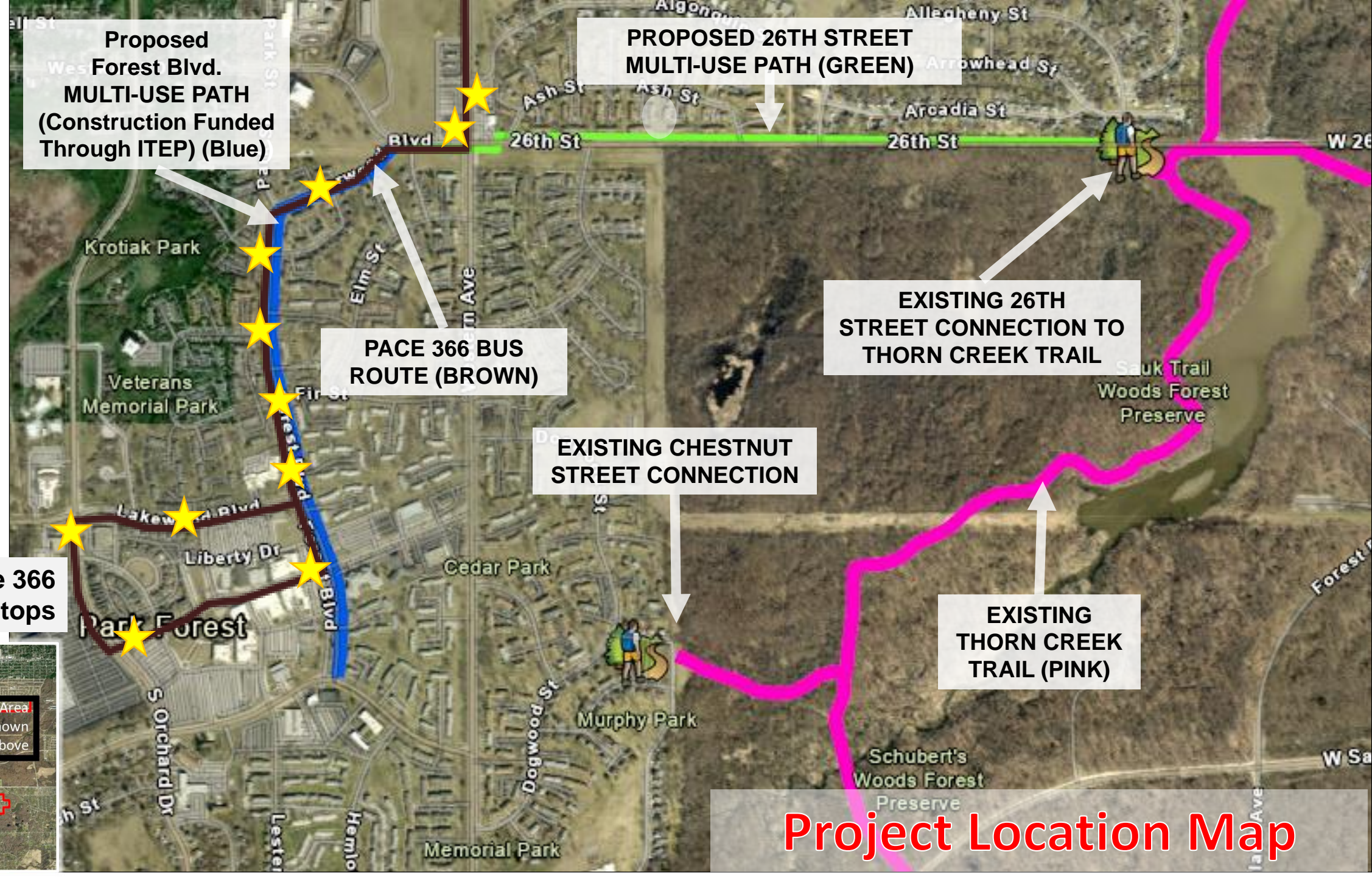
PACE 366 BUS ROUTE (BROWN)

EXISTING 26TH STREET CONNECTION TO THORN CREEK TRAIL

EXISTING CHESTNUT STREET CONNECTION

EXISTING THORN CREEK TRAIL (PINK)

★ Pace 366 Bus Stops



Project Location Map

Proposed 26th Street Multi-Use Path

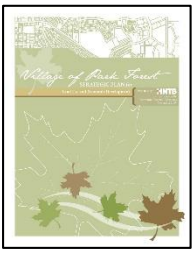


Project Summary

The Village of Park Forest is applying for RTA Access to Transit Funds for Phase II Design and Construction of a Multi-Use Path along 26th Street.

The Multi-Use Path would extend from Thorn Creek Trail on 26th Street to the proposed Forest Boulevard Multi-Use Path which would connect Downtown Park Forest to Thorn Creek Trail and Cook County Forest Preserve users to the closest Pace Bus Stop for Route 366.

Plans Supporting Development



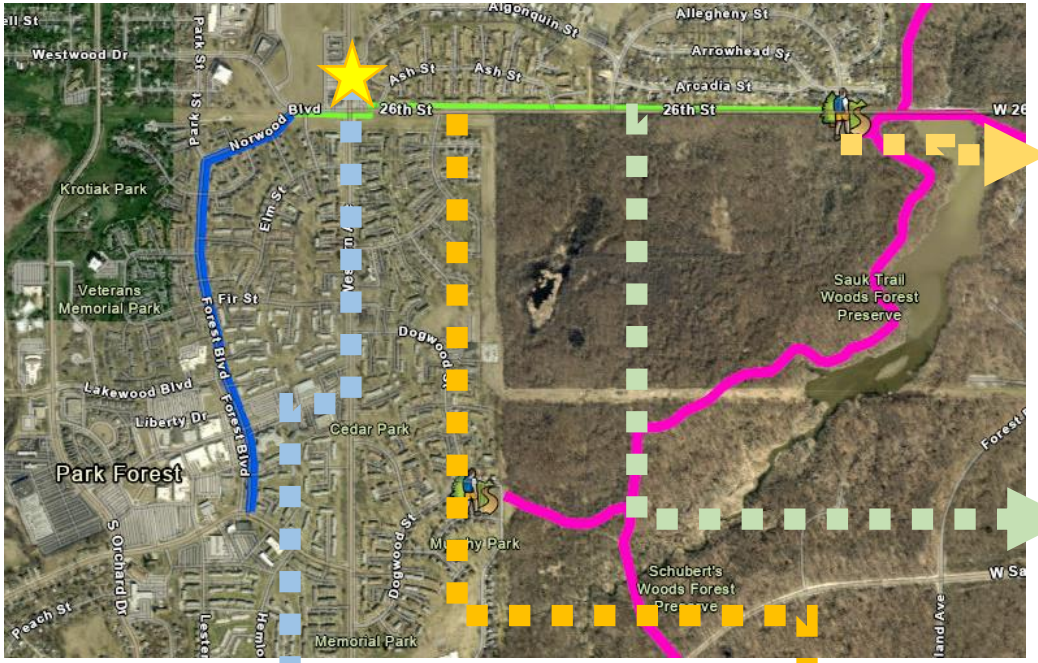
2008 Strategic Plan for Land use and Economic Development Implementation Strategy:

Capitalize on the electric utility right-of-way and Forest Preserve land to build a multi-use trail along 26th Street to Western Avenue.



2018 Comprehensive Housing Plan Recommendation:

The plan should also address ways to better connect the (Eastgate) neighborhood to the rest of the Village. This might include creating a multi-use path along 26th Street so walking and biking to shopping and services in the Village is easier.



EXISTING 26TH STREET CONNECTION TO THORN CREEK TRAIL

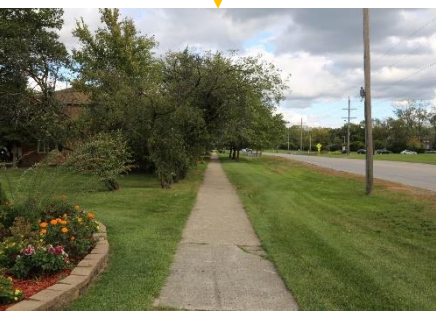


ROW EAST OF ALLEGHENY STREET

★ Closest Pace Rte 366 Bus Stop



ROUTE 366 BUS STOP LOOKING SOUTH DOWN WESTERN AVENUE



26TH STREET EAST OF ALLEGHENY STREET