



City of
Bedford
Stellar Foundation, Stellar Future

1102 16th Street | Bedford, IN 47421 | 812.279.6555

Date: May 27, 2014
To: Bedford Citizen or Business Owner
From: Mayor Shawna Girgis
Regarding: Bedford Sidewalk Improvement/Urban Trail Project

I am contacting you today in regards to the City of Bedford's plan to implement a sidewalk improvement/urban trail project as part of the Stellar Communities Initiative awarded through the State of Indiana, Office of Community and Rural Affairs with funds from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). This sidewalk improvement/urban trail project will connect Downtown Bedford to the new Milwaukee Road rail-trail that is being developed by the Indiana Trail Fund and is one part of the larger Limestone Trail System.

This project was identified in 2010 by Bedford residents as a high priority while developing the City's Comprehensive Plan. In 2012, with guidance from Professor Frank Nierzwicki, a group of graduate students from the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs (IU SPEA) completed a planning study that provided recommendations for the development of the Limestone Trail System that includes this project and was incorporated into Bedford's Stellar Communities proposal. (A copy of the Limestone Trail System Map has been included for your reference). In the fall of 2013, the IU SPEA students received the American Planning Association's Small Town and Rural Planning National Award for their work on the project.

I trust that you have heard about this exciting project via stories in the Times-Mail, press releases, public meetings, and speaking engagements that I and my staff have participated in, but in case you missed it, below are a few of the important facts that you should know regarding this project.

Anticipated Location

- This project will create two loops in the downtown and connect to the Milwaukee Road rail-trail. A map is included with this letter. The yellow line indicates the project location.
- **Loop 1:** Begins at 14th & J Streets – east to 14th & H Streets - south to 17th & H Streets - west to 17th & J Streets – completes loop 1 after traveling north to 14th & J Streets.
- **Loop 2:** Begins at 14th & L Streets – east to 14th & J Streets – south to 17th & J Streets – west to 17th & L Streets – north to 10th & L Streets where it joins the Milwaukee Road rail-trail.
- **L Street:** Anticipate the project being constructed on the west side of the street.

- **J Street:** Anticipate the project being constructed on the west side of the street.
- **H Street:** Anticipate the project being constructed on the west side of the street.
- **14th Street:** Anticipate the project being constructed on the south side of the street.
- **17th Street:** Anticipate the project being constructed on the north side of the street.

Property Required

- The plan is for the project to be **totally constructed on public property.**

Project Status

- The City of Bedford has received notice to proceed from INDOT.
- Survey work has begun to determine the exact location of property lines that will determine potential sidewalk/trail designs.

Next Steps

- Draft designs will be developed once the property survey is complete.
- Draft designs will be shared with citizens.
- Citizens will be given the opportunity to provide input regarding draft designs.
- Citizens input will be considered, design modifications made, final designs will be developed.
- Notice for the acceptance of construction bids on the project will be advertised.
- Construction firm will be selected.

Design

- The project covers a large area with differing physical characteristics.
- Each sidewalk/trail section will be designed to match the character of the area it is located in, as well as, meet needs of residents and comply with all ADA requirements.

Construction

- Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2015.
- Construction is expected to be completed by the beginning of 2016.

I am excited about this project because it will create opportunities for fun, recreational activities that will help improve Bedford's quality of place, as well as, the health and wellness of residents. While this is the case, the character and integrity of homes, businesses, downtown, and the City of Bedford are of utmost importance and will be a high priority as the project is planned and implemented.

If you have questions or would like to schedule an appointment to discuss this project please feel free to contact Marla Jones, the Business & Community Development Director, at (812) 279-6555 or via e-mail at mjones@bedford.in.us. We will do all we can to address your concerns during this process.

Sincerely,



Shawna M. Girgis
Mayor, City of Bedford

LIMESTONE TRAIL

10TH ST.

11TH ST.

12 TH ST




13TH:ST.

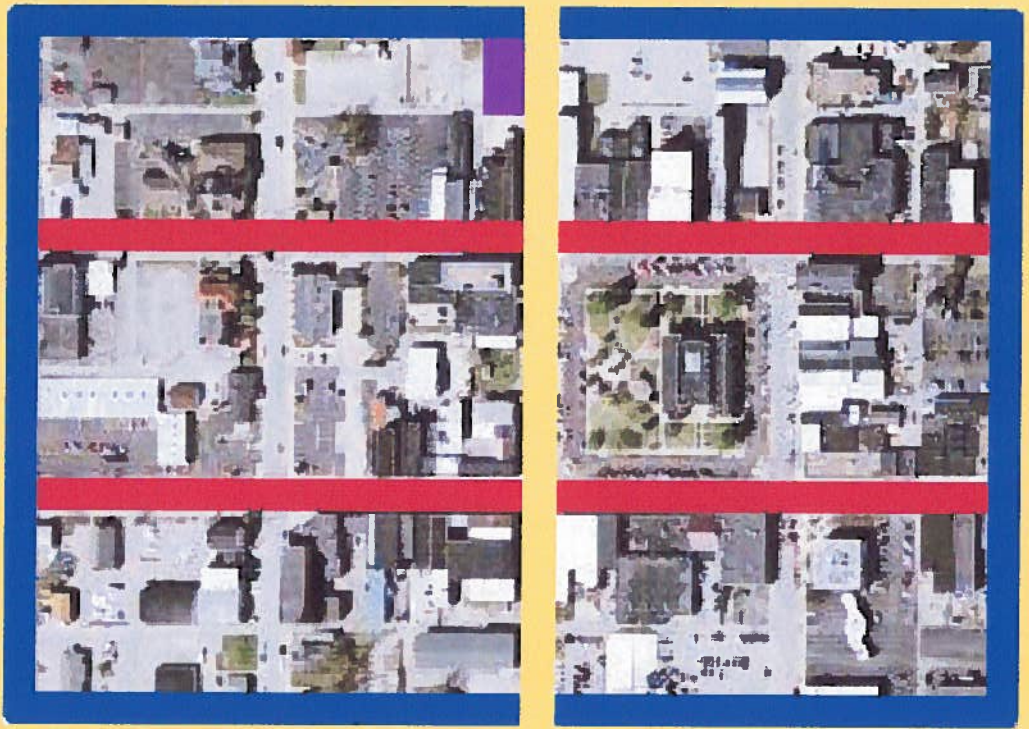
14TH ST.

15TH ST.

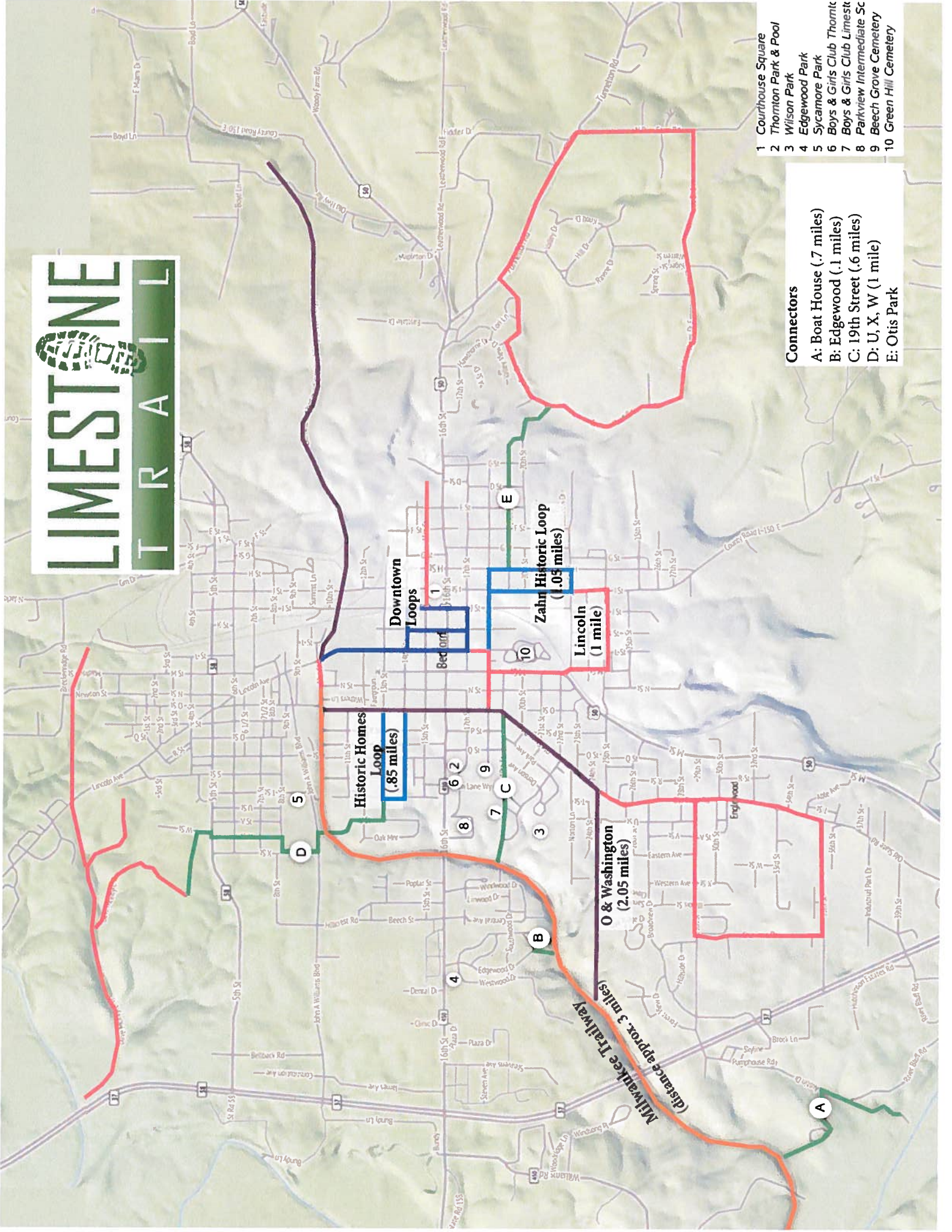
16TH ST

17TH ST.

-  **Downtown Loop** - Portion of the Limestone Trail being developed as a Stellar Community INDOT project.
-  **Impact Area** - Heart of Downtown Bedford identified in the Stellar Proposal as the target area for increased commerce and culture.
-  **U.S. 50**



LIMESTONE TRAIL



- 1 Courthouse Square
- 2 Thornton Park & Pool
- 3 Wilson Park
- 4 Edgewood Park
- 5 Sycamore Park
- 6 Boys & Girls Club Thornt
- 7 Boys & Girls Club Limest
- 8 Parkview Intermediate Sc
- 9 Beech Grove Cemetery
- 10 Green Hill Cemetery

- Connectors**
- A: Boat House (.7 miles)
 - B: Edgewood (.1 miles)
 - C: 19th Street (.6 miles)
 - D: U, X, W (1 mile)
 - E: Otis Park

Downtown Loops

Zahn Historic Loop (1.05 miles)

Lincoln (1 mile)

Historic Homes Loop (.85 miles)

O & Washington (2.05 miles)

Milwaukee Trailway (distance approx. 3 miles)

5

4

6

7

8

9

10

E

A

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10