

## **Macomb County Trailways Master Plan Public Forum #1**

**February 18, 2004  
Warren Community Center**

A public forum was held at the Warren Community Center. Seventy-two (72) people signed in and an estimated additional 15 people were in attendance, including county staff, city staff and consultants.

The purpose of the project was discussed as well as the process that has taken place thus far to develop the draft master plan. A regional perspective of trail development and planning was reviewed as was the anticipated future use of the master plan. The Macomb Orchard Trail video was also shown. Comments were taken from the public and noted. They were as follows, in no particular order:

- Integrate on-road systems into Master Plan
- Bike lanes and shoulders can be funded
- Need to benefit as many people as possible
- Safe routes to school should be a priority
- Better effort to make public more aware of forums, project status, etc. not everyone has internet
- Concerned about local money for maintenance and policing
- Disruption to wildlife caused by construction
- Supportive of trails in the appropriate places
- Emphasize natural areas
- Safety should be major concern
- Off-road may be safer
- Need to accommodate all levels of users
- Could also develop nature trails – maybe not all asphalt
- Red Run Trail would be unsafe – many areas have very high banks, etc.
- Go in front yards rather than back yards
- Multi-use trails can be dangerous
- A lot of questions remain regarding Red Run Drain
- Chicago Road is a possibility for a trail route rather than Red Run Drain
- Don't want the City to become divided
- Trails could attract youth and families to the area
- Remain open minded to the possibility but have a lot of questions regarding Red Run Drain
- Which side of drain is trail proposed?
- In favor of roads and trails for bikes
- Wildlife can coexist with trails
- Red Run Drain has a lot of problems now
- Improvements could possibly clean-up the area
- If grants are available, trails could be a good idea
- Would local homeowners be subject to lawsuits in Drain easement?
- In favor of trails but not in Red Run easement
- Red Run is too sensitive for wildlife to build trails
- Trails can help to eliminate the unwanted people in secluded areas
- Could be an asset to the community
- Would like to have local connections
- Spillway trail had similar process and saw positive benefits after construction
- Trails can help preserve nature
- Community groups have been getting involved in clean up, etc.

- Benefits will be appreciated
- Crime concerns
- Chicago Road/Hoover difficult area
- Other services are more essential
- Encouraged about a trail system in Macomb County
- Interested in what's planned
- Pollution clean-up should be the priority
- There is private property along the drain even though there is an easement
- Water quality concerns of Red Run Drain
- Bad odors of Red Run during summer
- Bear Creek has pollution problems
- How much land would be used to construct a trail near Red Run?
- The Drain is people's backyards
- Would it be on private property?
- Concerns regarding Red Run Trail
  - Safety
  - Property Values
  - Privacy
  - Contamination
- Red Run is a legal easement for a single purpose – how can it be legally made a multi-purpose
- Don't want to renegotiate easements. Difficult and timely.
- Private ownership exists up to drain in many places
- Clinton River area has seen reduction in crime after trails are built
- Plans are heavily biased by local governments and need more citizen involvement
- Trails are used by children, families, etc., and not thieves and drug addicts
- Red Run is last part of Warren that has wildlife
- Concerned with trespassing
- Concerned with garbage left behind
- Liability issues is a concern
- Impractical to connect Red Run Drain past Dequindre
- Crime exists now along the drain – graffiti
- Red Run Drain is too secluded
- Drain is difficult to access
- Red Run Drain area is off limits now
- Erosion concerns along Red Run Drain
- High water levels and flows exist at Red Run
- Health concerns if interacting with Red Run

Forum participants were given nine (9) dots: 3 yellow, 3 orange and 3 red. Those interested were asked to place 3 dots on the regional routes they believed should be a priority, 3 dots on the county routes they believed should be a priority and 3 dots on the local routes they believed should be a priority.