

Macomb Orchard Trail - Phase II and III Design



Communication Brief #2

September 27, 2005

Communication Briefs will be developed and distributed throughout the project period in an effort to increase awareness of the project happenings, issues, schedule, and meetings. It's anticipated that Communication Briefs will be developed approximately every six to eight weeks.

The kick-off meeting for design and construction of Phases II and III was held on September 13th with 17 people attending representing a cross-section of interests including the MOT Commission, the County, the Road Commission, MDOT, Friends of the MOT, Wolcott Mill Equestrians, and local communities. It is envisioned that this group will serve in an advisory capacity to the Macomb Orchard Trail Commission and the County Board of Commissioners. The MDOT Local Agency Planning submittal deadlines are going to be a key driver in the design process. In order to meet the MDOT requirements, and submit Grade Inspection plans by mid-December, there are several key design decisions that need to be made within the next several weeks. These include bridge design, trail head locations, road crossing design, equestrian trail location/design, interpretative displays location, overlook location, security/safety systems, and maintenance. The project is on schedule to have a construction contract approved in June 2006.



Representatives from the Macomb County Planning & Economic Development Department, Macomb County Recreation Department and the Wade Trim design team conducted a field review of the entire length of Phases II and III in order to understand the current condition of the corridor, location of culvert crossings, areas with drainage issues, locations of desired trail heads and staging areas, etc. A detailed analysis of the 7 former railroad bridges was also conducted by structural engineers to determine their condition, needed repairs, and design capacity.



A Transportation Enhancement Application was submitted to MDOT this month requesting nearly \$1 million in funding assistance for the construction of a non-motorized bridge over M-53 in the Village of Romeo, just north of 32 Mile Road.

The 2nd progress meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, October 13th at 3:00 p.m. at the Washington Township Hall Board Room (57900 Van Dyke Rd). Field work results will be discussed as well as preliminary design concepts.

Preliminary design concepts will be presented to the Macomb Orchard Trail Commission on Tuesday, October 25th at 10:30 a.m. at their regularly scheduled meeting at the Rotary Club.



A project website has been established and will be maintained throughout the design and construction phases. Visit www.wadetrिम.com/resources/orchardtrail/index.html for more information including meeting dates, summaries, contact information, etc.