

# CITY OF FITCHBURG

Office of the Mayor

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May 17, 2010

Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission  
c/o City Traffic Engineering Division  
P.O. Box 2986  
Madison, WI 53701-2986

RE: Pedestrian and Bicycle Projects  
2011-2013 Capital Budget

Attention Madison Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commissioners:

The City of Fitchburg (Fitchburg) is committed to providing a multi-modal transportation system and has a strong interest in providing a choice as to how residents and visitors travel within, throughout, and beyond Fitchburg. This includes biking, walking, driving, or using public transportation. This interest is exemplified by the City signing of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and the overall vision of the City of Fitchburg Comprehensive Plan to promote sustainable and regenerative growth. Based on those principles, Fitchburg would like to advocate for two projects to be included in the City of Madison (Madison) 2011-2013 Capital Budget that will increase opportunities for walking and biking in both of our communities, as well as the overall region. These projects include the following:

1. Design and construction of Cannonball Trail – Phases II and III
2. Design and construction of Perry Street Overpass of the Beltline Highway

The Beltline Highway creates a physical barrier between Madison and Fitchburg; limiting access to only the interchanges and grade-separated crossings. The enclosed map titled "Bike Corridors Connecting City of Fitchburg and City of Madison" illustrates the limited access that is currently available between our communities. It also illustrates, and emphasizes, the importance that both of the above referenced projects will have on improving direct and convenient routes for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The Cannonball Trail is a joint project between Fitchburg, Madison, and Wisconsin DNR. This trail will provide a direct and convenient commuter route for bicyclists between Fitchburg and Madison. The existing Capital City State Trail (CCST), which handles 100,000 users annually, does not meet current design standards. The Cannonball Trail will meet design standards and will likely be the preferred route over CCST for commuting purposes. The Cannonball Trail has been separated into four (4) phases (see enclosed Cannonball map). Phases I and II include

shared funding between Fitchburg and Madison. Phase III is funded entirely by Madison and Phase IV is funded entirely by Fitchburg. Construction of Phase I will be completed this year. Fitchburg will be including Phase II and Phase IV in their 2011-2015 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Fitchburg is proposing design in 2011 and construction in 2012 for both segments. Because the completion of all of the Phases is critical for the full functionality of the Cannonball Trail, Fitchburg is formally requesting Madison to include funding for Phases II and III in their 2011-2013 Capital Budget.

The Perry Street overpass of the Beltline Highway is identified as a recommended project in the City of Fitchburg Bike and Pedestrian Plan, adopted July 22, 2008. This proposed overpass will complete a critical north-south connection between Madison and Fitchburg. In the immediate vicinity, it will provide pedestrian and bicycle access between the Stewart Street employment district and the Burr Oaks residential areas along Badger Road and S. Park Street. Beyond the immediate area, it will provide a regional connection between the Village of Oregon and the South Transfer Point, allowing Fitchburg and Oregon residents a direct and convenient connection to the Metro Transit system, as well as the Park Street corridor to reach destinations in the downtown/isthmus part of Madison. Fitchburg is also planning for transit-oriented, high density developments in the proposed Green Tech Campus, McGaw Park Neighborhood, and others to the south (see "Bike Corridors..." map); all of which would benefit from a bicycle and pedestrian overpass of the Beltline Highway at Perry Street. For all of these reasons, Fitchburg formally requests the Perry Street overpass project to be included in the 2011-2013 Capital Budget.

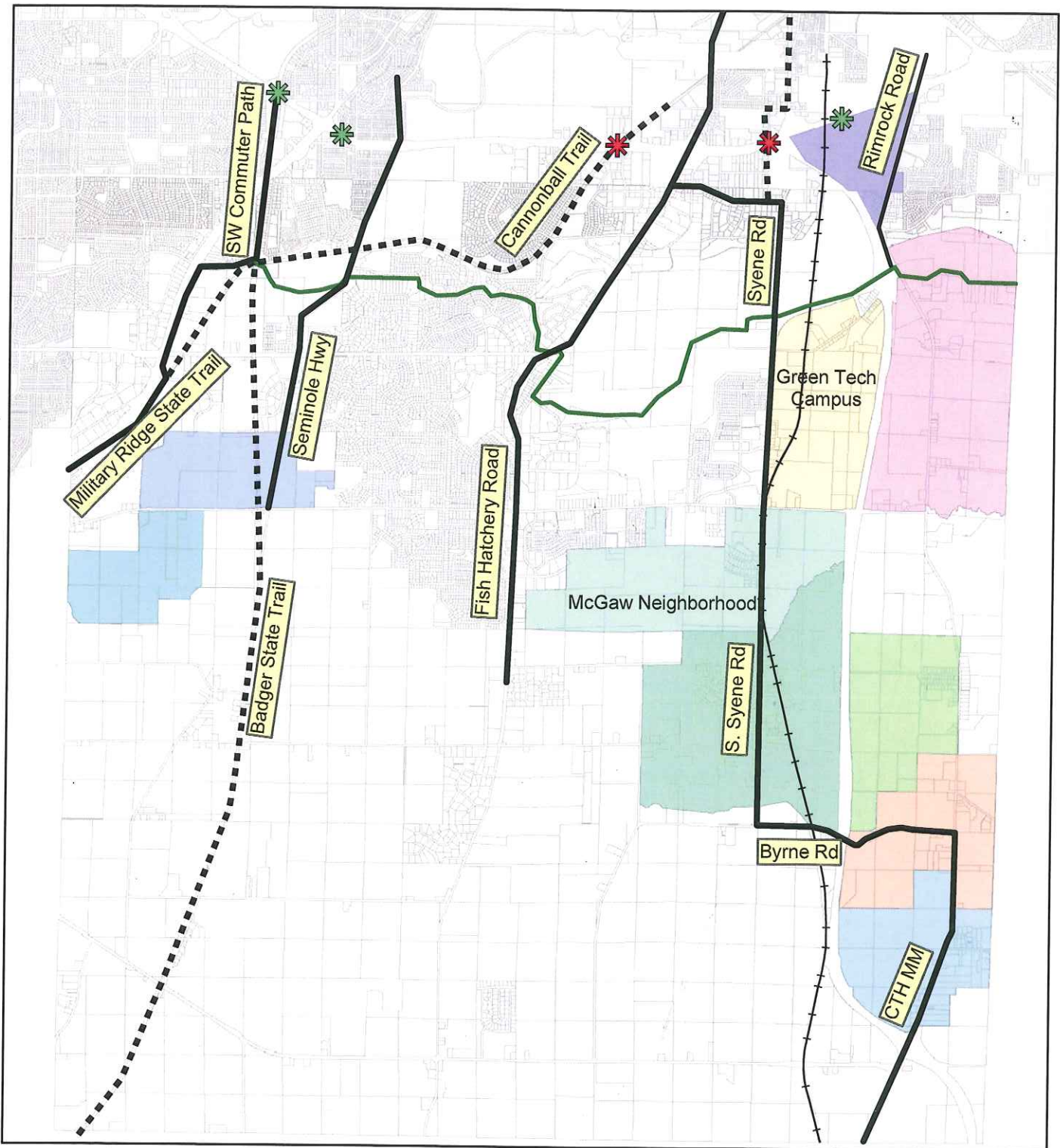
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jay Allen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jay Allen  
Fitchburg Mayor

cc: City of Fitchburg Transportation and Transit Commission Members  
Paul Woodard, Director of Public Works, City of Fitchburg  
Ahnaray Bizjak, Transportation Project Engineer, City of Fitchburg

# Bike Corridors Connecting City of Fitchburg with City of Madison



## Legend

- Existing Bike Routes (on- and off-street)
- Future/Proposed Bike Routes (on- and off-street)
- Existing Bicycle/Pedestrian Overpass
- Proposed Bicycle/Pedestrian Overpass
- Railroad Corridor
- Capital City State Trail
- Future Growth Boundary Areas



Prepared by:  
City of Fitchburg  
Public Works  
May 18, 2010  
A. Bizjak



# Cannonball Trail

- Phase I: Greenway Court to Capital City Trail, June 2010
- Phase II: Capital City Connector to SW Commuter Trail, Planned 2012
- Phase III: Greenway Court to Fish Hatchery Road
- Phase IV: SW Commuter Trail to Military Ridge Trail, Planned 2012



**Legend**

- City Borders
- Existing Trails
- Proposed Cannonball Trail**
- Phase I
- Phase II
- Phase III
- Phase IV

