

University Hill Farms Neighborhood Plan

Insert of Page 66, Under Priority Recommendations

The University Hill Farms Neighborhood Plan focuses on many short-term to long-term improvements to the area. Priorities for the neighborhood are plan recommendations that will promote and/or enhance the neighborhood in the following areas:

Safe Biking & Walking to Schools

Improve the safety of school-age students walking to and from Van Hise Elementary and Hamilton Middle School.

- Conduct study to determine if a crossing guard at LaCrosse Lane and South Hill Road meets criteria for crossing guard placement;
- Install speed boards and rapid flashing beacon during school hours on S Segoe Road;
- Improve mid-block crossing on Bayfield Terrace (by pedestrian path) with enhanced crosswalk, bump out and school speed limit; and
- Redesign median to allow for northbound vehicles to make left-hand turn into school property from S Segoe Road.
- Walking School Buses, a group of children walking to school with one or more adults, is active in several areas of the neighborhood.
- Install pedestrian activated flasher and pedestrian flags at 1) Regent Street and Eau Claire Avenue; and 2) Mineral Point Road and Racine Road.

Ease of Biking, Busing, and Walking with Multimodal Options

- Improve bicycle network by extension of marked bicycle lanes along N Segoe Road (400- 700 blocks) which upon completion would create a continuous marked bicycle lane along Segoe Road; explore pedestrian/bicycle crossing at University at N Segoe Road, including improving access to the Good Neighbor Trail; and explore a new east-west bicycle route along South Hill Drive.
- Provide safe crossing of intersections which lead to bike paths, bus stops, parks or schools, and shopping. Seven priority intersections were identified: N Whitney Way at South Hill Drive (pedestrian crossing to Garner Park), Mineral Point at Racine (crossing to bus stops and to walk to school), Regent Street at S Eau Claire (pedestrian crossing to Rennebohm Park and Hill Farm Swim Club), Old Middleton Road at N Eau Claire (leading to the Good Neighbor Bike Path), N Segoe at Sawyer Terrace (leading to Hilldale Shopping Center and to the Post Office), and University Avenue at N Whitney Way and at N Segoe Road.
- Install sidewalks or new paths to promote walking to or within parks and open space areas. Constructing a pedestrian path from Sheboygan Avenue to Rennebohm Park (to improve park access from the north), and new walking paths in Garner, Kenosha Parkway, Rennebohm, Robin Parkway, Van Hise-Hamilton Schools, will provide additional opportunities to enjoy for healthy living and natural environments.
- Conduct engineering studies to determine the feasibility of reducing the speed limit on Regent, N & S Segoe, and Sheboygan from 30 mph to 25 mph
- Implement the proposed BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) system. BRT stations are proposed to be located on Sheboygan Avenue near the intersection of N Segoe Road and N Eau Claire Avenue.

Sheboygan Avenue as a Pedestrian-Friendly, Complete Street

- Create a cohesive streetscape design to promote Sheboygan Avenue as a “District.” Incorporate new street lighting (LED and pedestrian style lighting), bicycle lanes, bicycle-sharing facilities, bus stop shelters/amenities, wider sidewalks, pedestrian connection to Rennebohm Park, and traffic calming measures to improve safety and enhance the multimodal advantages of this area.
- Conduct engineering studies to determine the feasibility of reducing speed limit on Sheboygan Avenue from 30 mph to 25 mph.
- Construct a pedestrian path from Sheboygan Avenue to Rennebohm Park (to improve park access from the north).
- Implement the proposed BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) system with stations at N Segoe Road and N Eau Claire Avenue when feasible.
- Construct a roundabout at the intersection of Sheboygan Avenue at N Segoe Road at the time the WiDOT site is redeveloped.

Preserve, Protect and Diversity the Urban Canopy

- Develop a communication plan to share available information regarding the Emerald Ash Borer and any future threat and treatment strategies with neighborhood residents. Encourage neighborhood residents to follow city recommended protocols.
- Secure grant funding and develop a program for inventorying ash trees and other tree species located on private property. Work with Van Hise, Hamilton, and Glenn Stephens schools on the process to inventory ash trees on school property.
- Develop a proactive plan to diversify tree species and address the potential loss of ash trees on Segoe Road and at Garner and Rennebohm Parks.
- Inventory and prepare a tree replanting plan for Rennebohm Park which diversifies tree species. As part of this effort, work with neighborhood residents to start an Adopt a Tree Program for the treatment of healthy, high value ash trees. Over 90% of the tree species in the park are Ash which makes it highly vulnerable to Emerald Ash borer.

Age-Friendly Neighborhood, Senior Livability

- Develop a new and expanded senior/ community center in conjunction with the redevelopment of the Sawyer-Segoe site for senior housing to serve the growing population of seniors, including existing residents wishing to age in place. Provide a public elevator and/or larger, safer, and more accessible stairway access to Hilldale shopping center as part of Sawyer Segoe redevelopment.
- With the large concentration of seniors living in close proximity to N Segoe –Sawyer Terrace and the senior population using the West Senior Center programs, enhance the bus stop amenities, street intersection, sidewalk system, and access for the elderly. High priority bus locations include 1) N Segoe Road, south of The Gardens Senior Apartments, where a bus boarding pad, bus shelter, and benches; 2) installation of sidewalks on the east side of Sawyer Terrace leading to Frey Street; 3) Install countdown timers to pedestrian signals at N Segoe Road and Sheboygan Avenue; N Segoe Road and Regent Street; Heather Crest and N Midvale Boulevard; and Old Middleton Road and N Whitney Way.
- Provide age friendly recreational amenities at Rennebohm Park such as benches along walking paths, benches and tables with shade protection, outdoor age friendly equipment, and path lighting.

- Study the feasibility of a direct route to Sequoia Branch library along N. Midvale Boulevard and a small bus/trolley circulator to connect with Hilldale, West Senior Center, medical clinics and offices, and proposed BRT stations.
- Periodic informational meetings with the West Senior Center, senior apartment managers, and service providers in the area would help inform seniors of transit availability.
- Explore an intergenerational program with the senior center and Glenn Stephens, Van Hise and Hamilton schools.
- Work with Hilldale and other retailers in the area to identify ways to accommodate the senior population, especially those with memory and mobility challenges.

WIDOT Redevelopment

The State Department of Administration proposes the construction of a 600,000 square foot office building and for the redevelopment of the remaining portion of the 21-acre WiDOT site. While the WiDOT site is not part of the planning study area, residents from the planning area provided input because of the magnitude of redevelopment will have impacts on the planning study area. Detailed concerns are summarized in the memorandum to the Mayor and Common Council dated June ____, 2015.