

January 27, 2022

Travis Houle  
Statewide Local Program Manager  
WI Department of Transportation  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
Madison WI 53705



To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the Highland Bike and Pedestrian Path project. While bicyclists will undoubtedly enjoy the increased trail-riding opportunities this project would bring to Wisconsin's Lake Michigan coast, the far-reaching enhancements this connection will bring to the area's local economies, tourism industries, and residential health and well-being make this a worthwhile project for our state to invest in.

The Highland Bike and Pedestrian Path would connect the Mequon Rotary Park with the Ozaukee Interurban Trail via a 1.5 mile long paved path. The interconnectivity between Mequon/Thiensville area trails this project would bring is well-supported by community members, law enforcement, local advocates, and affected homeowners. I have been impressed by the dedication these motivated stakeholders have to getting this project completed and am confident that with proper funding, the project will be a success.

The importance of trails for our Wisconsin communities cannot be understated. While the obvious impacts of increased community recreation opportunities are clear, trails do so much more for the communities they serve, including bettering public health, increasing economic and transportation benefits, enhancing environmental and conservation efforts, and even establishing a sense of identity within the community. By investing in trails, we invest in our residents, our communities, and our state.

The Highland Bike and Pedestrian Path will serve as a great opportunity for interconnectivity throughout southeast Wisconsin. I offer my full support for the project and will happily work to advocate on behalf of this important community connection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kirsten Finn'.

Kirsten Finn, Executive Director  
Wisconsin Bike Federation  
187 E. Becher St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53207