

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The Clay and Platte County Commissions made commitments in 1999 to work together toward the development of countywide trail systems. Both County Commissions recognize the benefits of trails for residents and their counties.



Plan Adoption. The Trail Vision Plan recommends that the two counties adopt the trail system plan as part of the county comprehensive plan. This formal adoption process will allow each county to consider the consistency of zoning and plat approval applications with the trail plan. Both counties will consider amendments to their subdivision regulations to seek land dedication as part of the approval process to support the trail system's development. The details of the process to be considered are included in Model Dedication Ordinances for each county, which have been prepared and presented as an element of this project. As the counties proceed with trail development as outlined in this Plan, it is their intention to negotiate and work in good faith with landowners to acquire land to ensure the trail system becomes a reality.

The counties will also use the plan in their planning for transportation investments, and by incorporating appropriate design considerations for bicycle and pedestrian accommodation along specific roadways identified in the plan.

Funding for the Trail System. Each county will determine the most suitable approach for plan implementation, including financial and institutional arrangements.

Platte County residents approved a ½ cent sales tax on August 8, 2000, for a period of 10 years to construct parks, trails and storm water improvements. The county has a tentative budget of \$9 million for trail construction over that period.

Clay County is still in the process of working with its citizens to identify a local funding source. The citizen survey conducted as part of this process indicates that additional public education and support is needed if voters are asked to support any trail-related tax measure.

Both counties will evaluate opportunities to secure federal or state grants for priority trail projects outlined in this plan. In particular, the two counties will identify specific projects and seek federal transportation funds under the Transportation Enhancement category. Local matching resources will be identified to allow the counties to pursue the federal and state grant opportunities.

As the trail system is built, maintenance will become an issue, and resources will be necessary to maintain trail investments.

Priority Projects and cost estimates for each county have been determined as an outcome of the planning process. Priority project recommendations are based on opportunity, citizen involvement, steering committee review and field observations and consultant expertise.

NORTHLAND TRAILS VISION PLAN
Clay/Platte Counties

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Paved Shoulder Miles		Shared Use Path Miles		Combined Use Miles		Cost Estimate	
Clay County	Platte County	Clay County	Platte County	Clay County	Platte County	Clay County	Platte
14.48	27.78	37.38	30.61	21.05	21.33	\$18,812,100.00	\$19,146,100.00
TOTAL							
42.26		67.99		42.38		\$37,958,200.00	

Institutional Support. Each county will identify ways to communicate the Trails Vision Plan to residents, business owners and other interested parties. This communication will include the county web sites, plan summaries, newsletters, presentations to community groups and other related actions.



Support organizations for both counties will pursue a county trail system. These organizations will have the responsibility of building awareness and support, identifying needs and communicating recommendations to the counties, and seeking and securing donations of money and land to assist with the trail system’s development.

Continued Planning. As development continues within the two counties, and as cities within the counties continue to plan and construct their own trail systems, this Trail Vision Plan will be updated and refined. The two counties will review the plan annually as new opportunities are identified through funding, development proposals or public feedback.

