

# The Friends of the Fox River Trail Need your Support Expansion and Upgrade of Pavement Campaign



**The Fox River State Recreational Trail** is a premier recreation and transportation trail located in Brown County. It links cities and villages along the Fox River with urban amenities, rural vistas, and open farmland. Upgrades to the trail will address the needs of our growing population and condition of the trail.

Currently the 22-year-old trail sees heavy use in the urban area. Our plans are to extend 3.4 miles of pavement to the Greenleaf trailhead, repave 10.5 miles of deteriorating pavement in the urban area, replace aging culvers, add a rural parking lot at Midway Road and create an endowment fund. These enhancements will ensure safety for our current users, entice new users, and promote business and tourism from downtown Green Bay all the way to Greenleaf and into the Fox River Valley.

## Trail Management

**The Wisconsin DNR owns the Fox River State Recreational Trail** and has designated the Brown County Parks Department as the trail's caretaker. As such, 70% of the revenue from Wisconsin state trail passes sold in Brown County is used for maintenance of the three state trails within the county. While this funding helps pay for the annual maintenance, it's not enough to address the structural needs outlined above.

Brown County Parks Department and the Friends of the Fox River Trail have worked together to secure funding from taxes, fees and grants available from County, State and Federal programs for the project.





## History and Community Impact

- Friends group organized in 1989.
- Worked with the Wisconsin DNR to purchase right of way for trail.
- Wrote grants and created partnerships to establish the trail.
- Built a restroom at Francis Park.
- Pavement extended 3.6 south of De Pere.
- Volunteers remove invasive plants.
- 10 ft walkway from trail to restroom at Bomier Boat Launch in De Pere.
- Way-finding signs installed along the trail.
- Partnership with Allouez for improvements at Sunset Park.
- Partnerships to create paths to trail from surrounding neighborhoods.
- Purchased railroad sidings for two future parking lots.
- Members and friends have donated benches, trees, bike repair stations, tables and more.
- Instituted snow clearing during winter.
- Trail Activities which encourage health and tourism, including the Cellcom GB Marathon, Turkey Trot, Walk to Mary, Kickin' It with Cows, Bellin Women's Half Marathon.
- Trail access to over 20 local restaurants.
- Friends of FRT quarterly meetings and monthly e-mail of newsletters to Friends



**Our Goal is \$2,125,000. We have achieved over \$2,040,000 to date! Remaining target: \$85,000.**

This campaign is a great example of how Government, Business Partners and Individuals can work together to provide a great community asset like the Fox River Trail.

**Brown County Parks Department** has secured funding for approximately 75% (\$1,610,000) of this project through county, state and federal fees, taxes and grants. An additional \$429,000 has already been received or pledged by over 100 Friends of the Fox River Trail and business partners, including the Green Bay Packer Foundation. **The remaining individual and business partner goal is \$85,000, as of July, 2023.**

A listing of our Platinum Donors (\$250 or more) and information about the trail and project can be found on our website: [www.Friendsftrt.org](http://www.Friendsftrt.org). We invite you to visit and share our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheFRT/](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheFRT/).



The Friends of the Fox River Trail exist to enhance, maintain, and collaborate for all things Fox River Trail. We are especially thankful for the early members and partners who had the vision, commitment, and determination to make the trail a reality. The trail is now nationally recognized and has had over 3 million visitors since it was opened in 2001.

It is now our turn to ensure the trail continues to be one of our community's prize resources for the next twenty years.

**You can make a difference.** We ask you to consider financially supporting this project. If you are interested in partnering and/or request more information, please email us at: [friendsoffrt@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsoffrt@yahoo.com).

Donations may be mailed to: Friends of the Fox River Trail, 1794 Allouez Avenue, STE C, #235, Green Bay WI 54311. Please include your email address to receive our newsletters.



Donations may also be made at our website: [www.Friendsftrt.org](http://www.Friendsftrt.org).

The Friends of the Fox River Trail is an all-volunteer, 501 (3) C non-profit organization.