

The countywide active transportation plan is a recognized initiative for the Windsor/Essex region. It has been made clear that the eastern Windsor border to Manning Road in Tecumseh presents a gap in that connectivity goal.

What is not decided is the route and type of connectivity pathway. Currently the proposed pathway declares the south side of Riverside Drive with a 2.7 swath of asphalt as the recommended route and type of two directional pathway.

I would suggest that the goal of connecting the original Ganachio trail to the Lakewood Park and eastern path can be addressed by different options to respect all stakeholders needs and still reach the desired goal.

Everyone agrees that expanding recreational pathways throughout the region is beneficial for all residents.

The solution should be a safe, accessible ,fiscally responsible route for pedestrians, recreational bicycle riders and cyclists.

Options to achieve that goal should be seriously considered and are represented by the following:

Upgrade existing sidewalk on north side of Riverside and provide safe roadside bike lanes.

Construct a sidewalk extension on south side of Riverside with safe roadside bike lanes.

Consider an alternative route connecting current Windsor pathways to Lakewood Park on Manning Road/Riverside

Do a complete reconstruct of Riverside Dr as future plans indicate and incorporate the connective pathway in those plans.

Any of these are less intrusive than the proposed 2.7 metre two directional swath of asphalt that is currently under consideration. All of these alternative options would provide the respect and consideration warranted for all stakeholders and still meet the intended goal.

I would hope that the decision makers would take into consideration any and all of these options and agree that a huge undertaking such as the one currently proposed is the least desirable option at the current time.

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