

SHINGOBBEE CONNECTION TRAIL

Walker, Minnesota

The proposed Shingobee Connection Trail is a collaborative venture between a group of local bicycle enthusiasts working with local, state and federal governmental agencies to develop a paved trail link with the existing Paul Bunyan State Bike/Snowmobile Trail. The proposed trail will connect with the Paul Bunyan Trail six miles north of Hackensack and will extend into Walker adjacent to State Highway 371. The proposed trail will pass through Walker to the west connecting to the Heartland State Bike Trail, which connects with the Paul Bunyan Trail, south of Walker. This "connector loop" will create a 24 mile paved trail that opens trail opportunities directly to the Walker community while connecting with the extensive system of existing trails provided by the State Paul Bunyan and Heartland Trails. The project is currently planned in five phases as follows: (also see map on back)

Phase I: Is 2.1 miles of new trail that will be built upon the original railroad grade from its point of origin until it reaches Christmas Point Road. From there it will traverse cross country to an abandoned MnDOT gravel pit, just south of Hwys 200/371 and east of Shingobee Bay

Projected Timeline: Fall of 2008

Project Cost: \$205,000 (planned Spring '09 completion)

Funding Status: Cass County Grant

Phase II: Is a 2.4 mile continuation of the Heartland Trail from downtown Walker to the south intersection of Cass County Road 146 and State Hwys 200/371 via Walker Bay Boulevard and a short (2000 ft.) portion of the abandoned railroad bed. This portion will also connect to the Walker Hackensack Akeley Public School to the trail system

Projected Timeline: Fall 2008

Project Cost: \$150,000 (planned Spring '09 completion)

Funding Status: Federal Trail Grant Program & Cass County Conservation Trust Fund 73

Phase III: Is a 1.6 mile continuation of the trail from Intersection of Hwys 200/371 and County Road 163, along the shoulder of Hwys 200/371 to the trail head just east of Shingobee Bay. This trail head is the terminal point of Phase I. Phase III will require the most extensive construction of the entire trail connection project.

Timeline: 2012

Estimated Cost: \$390,000

Funding Status: Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant (SAFETEA_LU) with local match.

Phase IV: Construction of a bicycle/pedestrian bridge across Pumphouse Bay of Leech Lake. This bridge will be a separate structure adjacent to the existing Highway 371 vehicular bridge.

Timeline: 2012 or later

Estimated Cost: \$780,000

Funding Status: Undetermined

Phase V: Is 0.1 miles of new trail construction, connecting a parking area/trailhead at the new Chippewa National Forest District Office, with the Phase II portion of the Shingobee Connection via a passageway under Hwys 200/371

Timeline: 2012 or later

Estimated Cost: \$475,000

Funding Status: Undetermined



SHINGOBBE CONNECTION TRAIL WALKER, MINNESOTA PROPOSED PROJECT PHASES

JANUARY 2009

