

Pop Up Pathway Frequently Asked Questions



1. What is a Pop Up Pathway? What's the distance?

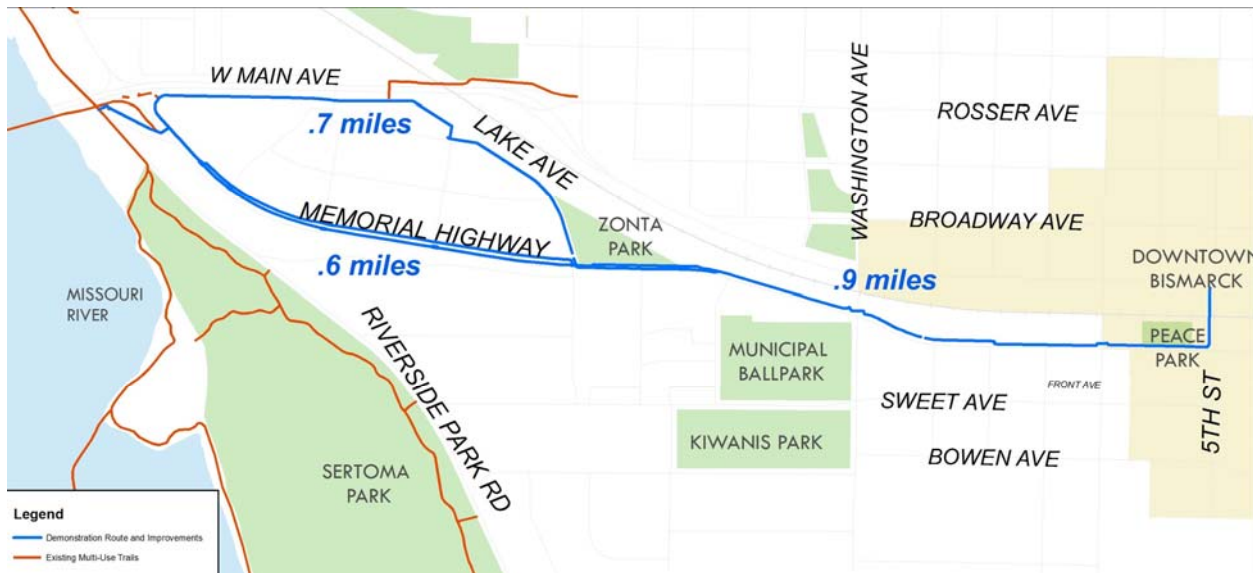
The pop-up pathway is a temporary “quick-build” demonstration of a potential future pathway in the heart of Bismarck. This path is located along Front Avenue, Memorial Highway and Lake Avenue between South Fifth Street and Riverside Road. It is scheduled to be open to the public from September 23 to October 14.

This project creates a demonstration of the proposed pathway (trail), utilizing temporary materials such as straw bales and traffic cones, paint, and wayfinding to allow citizens to experience the benefits of the connection and try out a potential new active transportation and recreation option. **This includes 4 Saturday events along the Pop Up Pathway!**

The goal of the pop-up pathway is to measure interest in a permanent shared-use trail connection, get citizen feedback on the proposed route, and ask what improvements should be considered if a permanent version is developed in the future.

2. How long is the Pop-Up Pathway?

The total length is approximately 2.2 miles. The map below shows lengths of each segments.



3. Why not use the existing sidewalks?

All attempts to use existing sidewalks to make a complete connection between Downtown and the Waterfront have been made. In some locations, no sidewalks exist. In other locations the existing sidewalk does not meet engineering standards for a multi-use path. In order to accommodate a variety of potential users (people walking, running, biking and people in wheelchairs) a minimum of 10' foot wide paths is recommended to ensure adequate space for moving and passing. To provide more space, at times, under-utilized street space has been used to provide a buffered multi-use path.

4. Is this Pop Up Pathway permanent?

The current configuration is temporary and will be removed after October 14, 2017. If enough interest in a permanent trail to connect downtown with the waterfront is determined, planning analysis will continue. No funding has been identified for any future development and there is no timeline of when a permanent version may be constructed if warranted.

If enough interest is expressed, the ultimate goal would be to build a permanent shared-use trail that is wide enough for all users, provides a physical separation from the street and most importantly - is safe for users of all ages and abilities.

5. How is the Pop Up Pathway funded?

The pop-up pathway demonstration project is made possible due to the generous support from AARP. Citizen volunteers have also donated time to help with the installation.

AARP grant program - Livable Communities <http://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/about/info-2017/aarp-community-challenge.html>

6. What's the next step in the project?

After the pop-up pathway demonstration phase ends on Oct 14, workgroup members will evaluate the project, analyze feedback and observations, and determine if additional time and effort is warranted. If so, revisions to the DRAFT Bismarck Central Pathway (<http://www.bismarcknd.gov/bismarckcentralpathway>) will be made to better align with information received during the pop-up pathway demonstration.

7. Why do the Pop Up Pathway now (Sept 23-Oct 14)?

The Pop Up Pathway was fortunate enough to be awarded an AARP Grant for the demonstration project. The grant funded portions of the project must be completed by November 1, 2017. AARP grant program - Livable Communities <http://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/about/info-2017/aarp-community-challenge.html>

8. What is the value of a trail system in our community?

Access to trails and recreation for all ages and abilities is a great value for our community's health. Additionally, homes within approximately 500 feet of trails in our community typically have either higher market values or higher values per square foot. In addition, trails provide a safe and comfortable way to walk or bike to destinations, rather than drive.

9. Is it safe to ride/walk on the street portions of the Pop Up Pathway?

This pop-up pathway is designed to be similar to a trail. Even though at times you are on the street, the same rules apply as when you are on a trail adjacent to the road. Traffic Delineators/Cones, Straw Bales and Yellow Lane Striping have been put in place to provide pathway users a protected area (trail) for traveling in any direction and to indicate to motorists that the designated pathway is not open to cars.

10. What are the basic rules for drivers/bicyclists?

Bicyclists:

- *Go slowly on pathways/sidewalks. Yield to pedestrians. Provide an audible warning as you prepare to pass, such as "on your left".*
- *Don't ride after consuming alcohol or other drugs.*
- *When approaching and crossing an unsignalized intersection, slow down and look behind your shoulders for possible cars that may be making a turn into the intersection. Make eye contact to ensure the motorist sees you and will yield before continuing through the intersection.*
- *Wear bright reflective clothing to increase your visibility while on the path.*
- *Blinking lights at night and other personal safety practices.*

Motorist Safety

- *Watch for bicyclists at all times.*
- *Scan for bicyclists in traffic and give them the appropriate right-of-way.*
- *Children and novice riders can be unpredictable; expect the unexpected.*
- *Before making a turn, look in all directions for bicyclists.*
- *Don't drive after consuming alcohol or other drugs.*
- *Don't drive distracted, which includes the use of cell phones, other hand-held devices, or other activities that take your attention away from the road while driving.*
- *For maximum visibility, keep your windshield clean and headlights on.*
- *Drive the speed limit and avoid aggressive maneuvers.*
- *Obey speed limits and come to a complete stop at stop signs.*
- *Allow extra time for bicyclists to cross intersections.*
- *Recognize hazards that bicyclists may face and give them space to maneuver.*
- *Don't honk your horn in close proximity to bicyclists; this behavior often startles them and could cause them to crash.*