

# Altoona Outdoors

Encouraging Healthy Lifestyles in and around Altoona

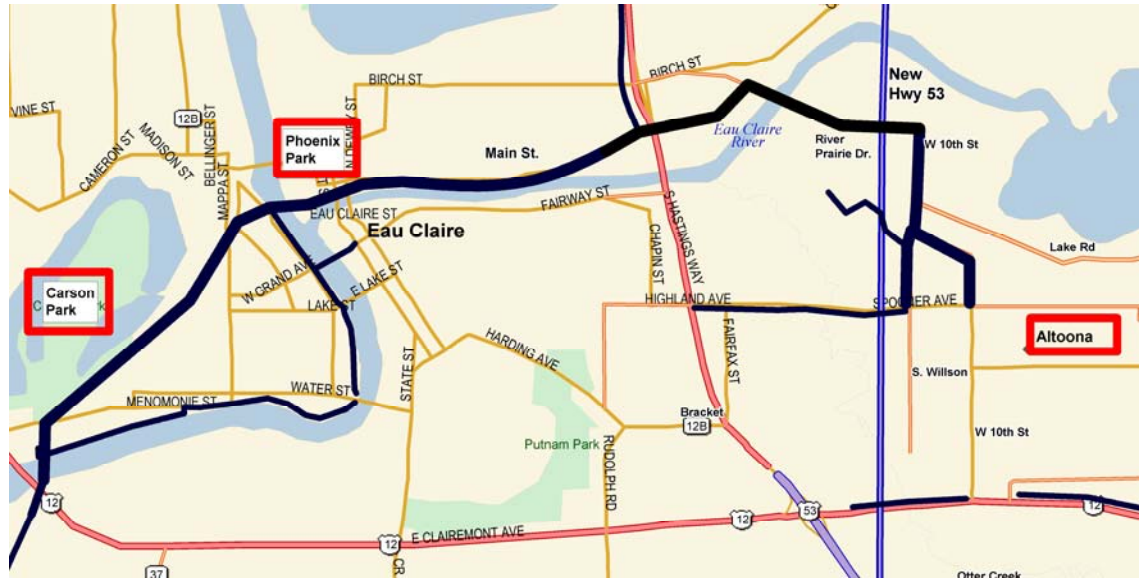
## September 2006 Newsletter

Welcome to the second quarterly newsletter for Altoona Outdoors. Here's the big news.

### Altoona & Eau Claire Get Connected

With the opening of the River Prairie Drive – to – Birch Street connection, we can bike from downtown Altoona to downtown Eau Claire with safe crossings of both new and old Hwy 53 – with off-street trails nearly all of the way.

**Try this out!**  
**It's a blast!**



### Lake Road Project Gets Started



We have started this project by funding the detailed engineering work. We contracted with the City (and paid \$21,800) to engage an engineer. Look for the flags and stakes marking the “right-of-way”.

With this engineering done, we’ll have bid-ready designs, ready for contractors to bid on the project.

We can construct the trail when we raise another \$48,000. See the solid green line.



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### **Altoona's Eastside Loop Trail gets the official nod for 80% funding from the D.O.T.**

(See the dotted green line above)

We have applied to the DOT for a grant to fund 80% of the cost of this trail - which is estimated to cost \$280,000. Altoona Outdoors will fund the remaining 20%. We scored very well on this grant application – 8 among 160 grants in the state. We learned last week that we won the award!

With this in mind, we'll need to raise an additional \$56,000 to cover our share of the \$280,000 trail cost.

Note that trail placement will likely be on the south side of the road (south of Beach, and south of KB).

### **Let's get the Lake Road and Eastside Loop Trails built next Spring!**

The time has come to get a major project done.

We need the following to get these trails built:

- Raise another \$48,000 for Lake Road
- Raise another \$56,000 for the Eastside Loop

So that's the near-term target: **\$104,000**

We have just received a \$52,000 pledge to match dollar-for-dollar any donations made before the end of 2007.

Let's get these trails built! Here's how you can help.

Donate today at [www.AltoonaOutdoors.org](http://www.AltoonaOutdoors.org)

Talk with your Altoona Council or Town of Washington representative – let them know you support the trails, and would like the City budget to include trail improvements.

Talk with your Federal & State representatives – thank them for the (DOT & DNR) support for the trails, and let them know we could use more help.