

Village of Streamwood: IL-59 Bridge + Bike Trail

Community Poll Summary

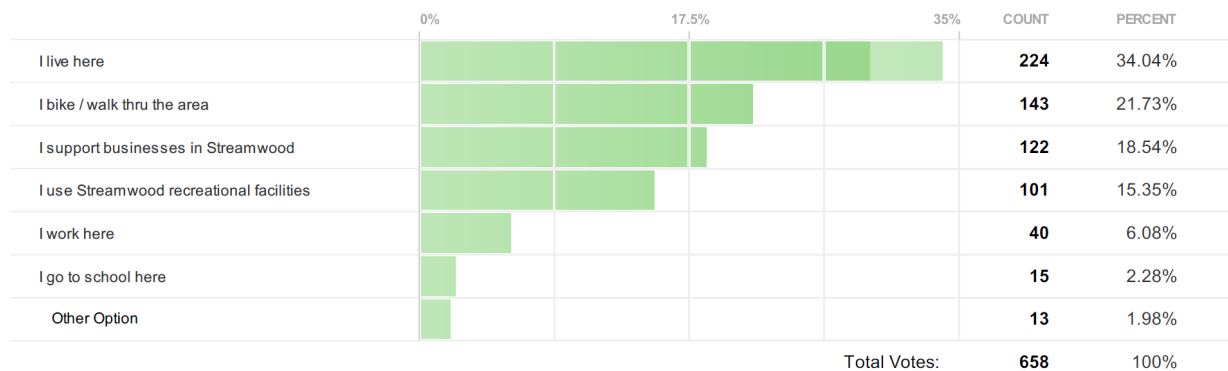
Results are in! Big thanks to everyone who participated in the *IL-59 Bridge + Bike Trail Poll*. Following the recommendations set forth in *Streamwood’s Comprehensive Plan* (adopted May, 2018), the IL-59 Bridge + Bike Trail were identified as important projects to better connect the community. The poll included image-based questions to hear community input about bridge and trail designs and amenities.

A summary of poll statistics follows below:

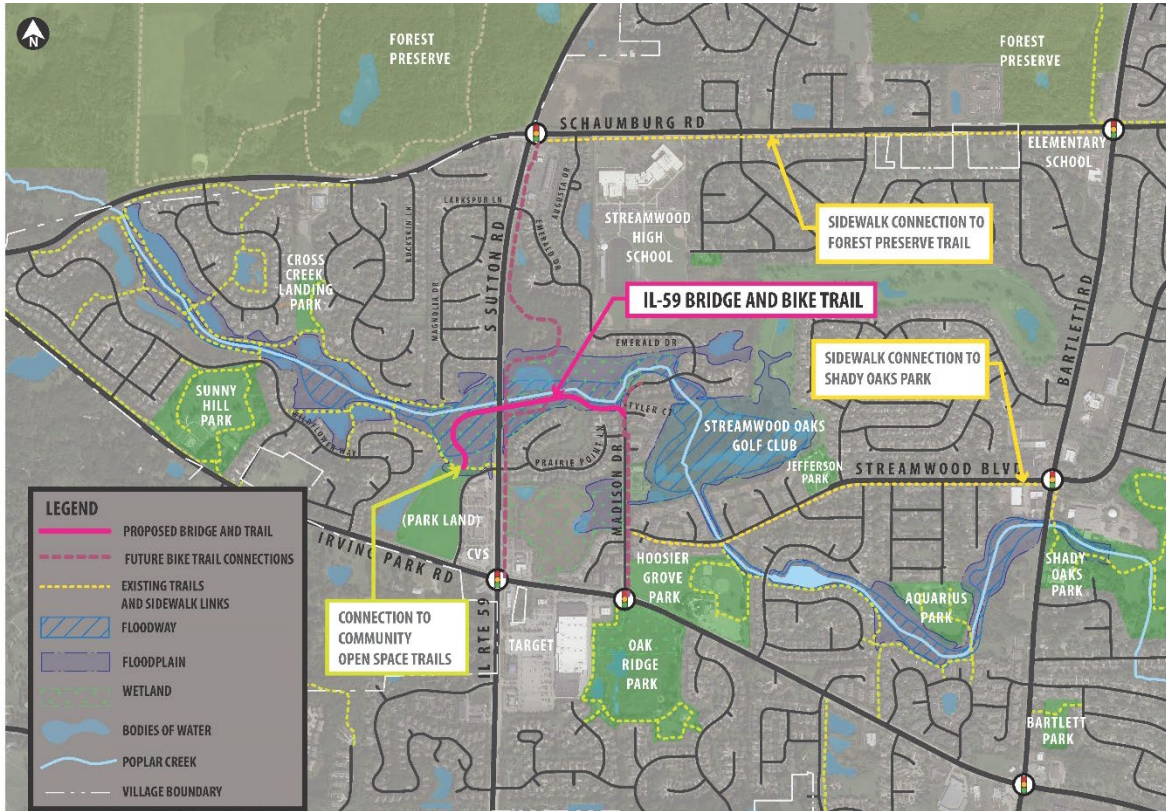
- The poll was open for **23** days, between February 18 and March 12, 2021.
- **251** folks participated in the poll, of which 2 responses were provided via hard copy at the February 25 public meeting. All other responses were submitted online.
- **220** original comments were provided.

We received responses from people who feel a strong sense of connection to the Village of Streamwood. Respondents reported that they call Streamwood their home (34%), bike and walk through the area (22%), support Streamwood businesses (19%), use Streamwood recreational facilities (15%), work in Streamwood (6%), and attend school in Streamwood (2%). 2% reported ‘other’ and included the following responses: *traveling through the area and residing in neighboring communities*.

Participant Profile | Community Connection



Q1 | Based on the trail and bike bridge locations shown on the map, which direction would you use most often to get to the trail? (select multiple)

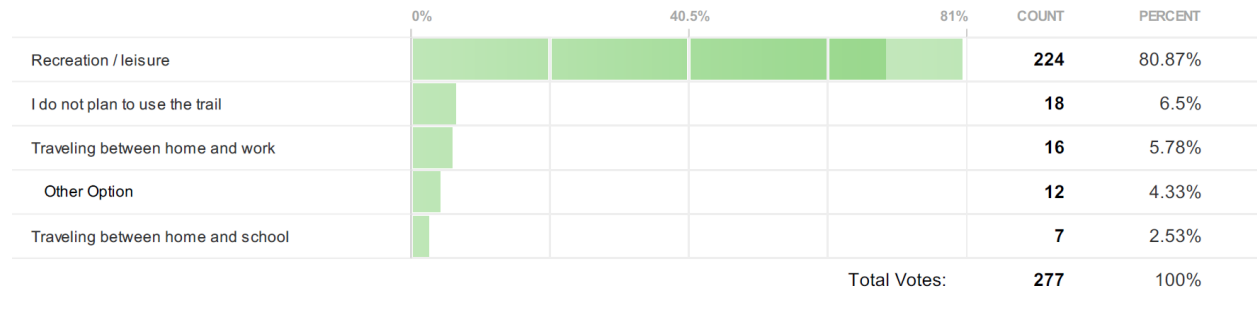


Based on the orientation of the proposed trail, respondents reported they would access the trail ‘from the south along Madison Drive’ (28%), ‘directly from Sutton Road’ (26%), ‘from the north along Emerald Drive by Streamwood High School’ (22%), ‘on the west, and along Wildflower Way / Sunny Hill Park area’ (17%). 5% of responses indicated they do not plan to use the trail. 3% reported ‘other’ and included the following responses: *Hummingbird Lane area, the path along Irving Park Road, from west Schaumburg Road and from Bartlett along IL-59.*

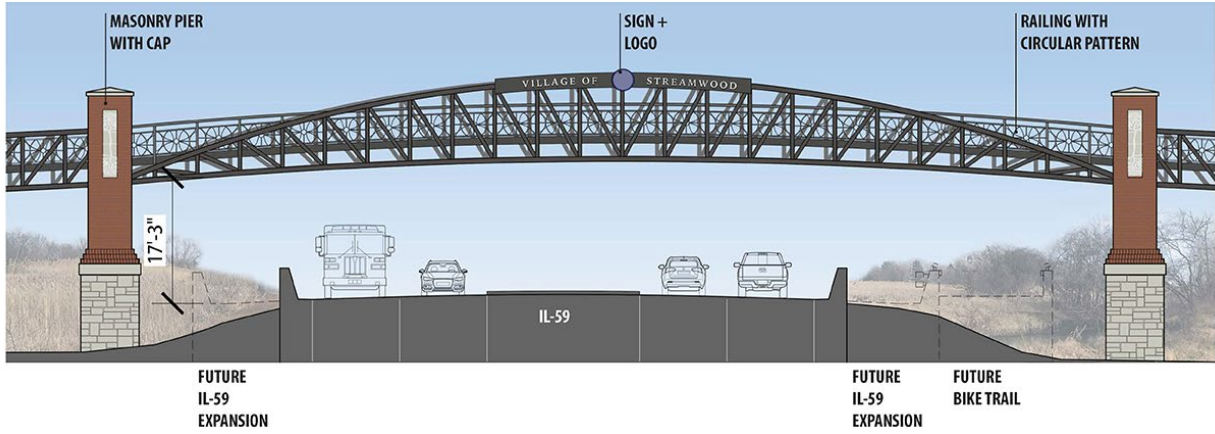
| | 0% | 14.5% | 29% | COUNT | PERCENT |
|--|------------------------------|-------|-----|-------|---------|
| From the south along Madison Drive | [Progress bar: 0% to 28.04%] | | | 90 | 28.04% |
| Directly from Sutton Road | [Progress bar: 0% to 25.55%] | | | 82 | 25.55% |
| From the north along Emerald Drive by Streamwood High School | [Progress bar: 0% to 21.81%] | | | 70 | 21.81% |
| On the west, along Wildflower Way / Sunny Hill Park area | [Progress bar: 0% to 17.13%] | | | 55 | 17.13% |
| I do not plan to use the trail | [Progress bar: 0% to 4.67%] | | | 15 | 4.67% |
| Other Option | [Progress bar: 0% to 2.8%] | | | 9 | 2.8% |
| Total Votes: | | | | 321 | 100% |

Q2 | How do you anticipate using the trail? (select multiple)

When asked how participants plan to use the trail, the top response was ‘recreation / leisure’ (81%). 6.5% of respondents reported they do not plan to use the trail. 6% reported ‘traveling between home and work’ and 3% reported ‘traveling between home and school’. 4% reported ‘other’ and included the following responses: *traveling to shops and dining near the intersection of Sutton Road and Irving Park Road (Arby’s, Starbucks) and visiting friends.*



Q3 | Bridge Concept #1 depicts a truss bridge. Based on this concept, please select your top features (select multiple).



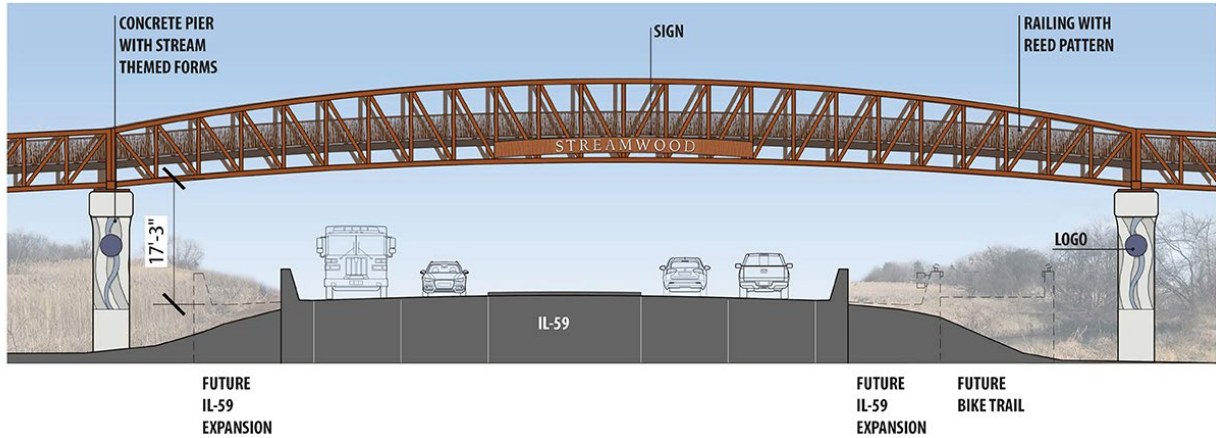
| | 0% | 19% | 38% | COUNT | PERCENT |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----|-----|-------|---------|
| Streamwood sign + logo | [Green bar representing 38%] | | | 171 | 37.09% |
| Masonry pier with cap | [Green bar representing 31%] | | | 145 | 31.45% |
| Railing with circular pattern | [Green bar representing 29%] | | | 134 | 29.07% |
| None are appealing to me | [Green bar representing 2%] | | | 11 | 2.39% |
| Total Votes: | | | | 461 | 100% |

When asked to select their most preferred design treatments of Bridge Concept #1, the top response was ‘Streamwood sign + logo’ (37%). Other selections include ‘masonry pier with cap’ (31%), ‘railing with circular pattern’ (29%). 2% of responses indicated ‘none are appealing to me’.

10 individual comments were provided and are summarized below:

- Safety, sustainability, and long-term maintenance should be considered for all design features.
- The truss bridge structures dominate the appearance of the bridge and should be considered when making final selections.
- What deterrents are built into the bridge design to keep bridge users from climbing over / throwing items over the bridge?
- Incorporate a trail map.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“Please don’t cut corners with appearance. Use this as an opportunity to upgrade the appearance of Streamwood and increase interest in living here. Advertise the Village of Streamwood so include the name.”*
 - *“Looks classy and welcoming.”*
 - *“Trail map posted helps let people know connections.”*

Q4 | Bridge Concept #2 depicts a truss bridge. Based on this concept, please select your top features (select multiple).








| | 0% | 12.5% | 25% | COUNT | PERCENT |
|--|------------------------|-------|-----|-------|---------|
| Streamwood sign | [Progress bar: 24.47%] | | | 104 | 24.47% |
| Railing with reed pattern | [Progress bar: 22.82%] | | | 97 | 22.82% |
| Concrete pier with stream themed forms | [Progress bar: 22.35%] | | | 95 | 22.35% |
| Streamwood logo | [Progress bar: 18.35%] | | | 78 | 18.35% |
| None are appealing to me | [Progress bar: 12%] | | | 51 | 12% |
| Total Votes: | | | | 425 | 100% |

When asked to select their most preferred design treatments of Bridge Concept #2, the top response was ‘Streamwood sign’ (24%). Other selections include ‘railing with reed pattern’ (23%), ‘concrete pier with stream themed forms’ (22%), ‘Streamwood logo’ (18%). 12% of responses indicated ‘none are appealing to me’.

8 individual comments were provided and are summarized below:

- Safety, sustainability, and long-term maintenance should be considered for all design features.
- Consider the concrete pier without the logo.
- Multiple responses indicated a preference for Concept #1 over Concept #2.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“Safety and sustainability should be primary to any final selection.”*
 - *“Use this concept/idea. With my degree in architecture, you want to reflect the surrounding area and make the bridge seem almost natural with the environment it was placed in.”*


Q5 | Based on these bridge piers examples, please select the photo that is your preferred treatment for bridge piers. (select one).

| BP-1 | BP-2 | BP-3 | BP-4 | BP-5 |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 10% | 17% | 63% | 5% | 6% |

12 individual comments were provided and are summarized below:

- Safety, sustainability, and long-term maintenance should be considered for all design features.
- Consider the concrete pier without the logo.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“Piers should not hide any part of the pedestrian cross over for safety reasons.”*
 - *“..please don’t cut corners on design and overall appearance. This bridge will (be) here for the next 50 years.”*
 - *“Modern and simple all one material. If brick, (use) all brick, if concrete, (use) all concrete with a modern design would be nice.”*






Q6 | Based on these bridge railings examples, please select the photo that is your preferred treatment for bridge railings. (select one).

| | | |
|-------------|--|------------|
| BR-1 |  | 24% |
| BR-2 |  | 35% |
| BR-3 |  | 18% |
| BR-4 |  | 23% |

16 individual comments were provided and are summarized below:

- Safety, sustainability, and long-term maintenance should be considered for all design features.
- Preferences for taller railings; keep bridge users from throwing items off the bridge onto the roadway.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“Durability / time-efficiency would be top priorities in my mind. Styling would be less of a priority in my opinion.”*
 - *“The bridge needs tasteful railings for the safety of walkers as well as drivers.”*





Q7 | Based on these trail railings examples, please select the photo that is your preferred treatment for trail railings. (select one).

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------|
| R1 |  | 16% |
| R2 |  | 4% |
| R3 |  | 42% |
| R4 |  | 19% |
| R5 |  | 19% |

10 individual comments were provided and are summarized below:

- Safety, sustainability, and long-term maintenance should be considered for all design features.
- Recommendation to make use of composite materials instead of wood.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“Safety and sustainability should be primary to any final selection.”*
 - *“Safety is paramount.”*

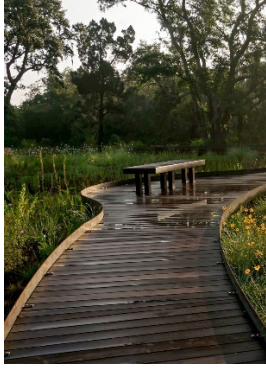
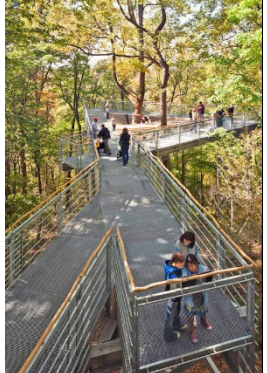



Q8 | Based on these trail transitions example photos, please select the photo that is your preferred treatment for trail transitions. (select one).

| T-1 | T-2 | T-3 | T-4 |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| <p>31%</p> | <p>34%</p> | <p>24%</p> | <p>10%</p> |

10 individual comments were provided and are summarized below:

- Safety, sustainability, and long-term maintenance should be considered for all design features.
- Recommendation to make use of composite materials instead of wood.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“The transitions should be natural looking. Stone and wood not concrete and metal.”*
 - *“Let’s make these trail transitions fun and interactive. Let’s get kids to go back outside to the roots where friendships and true memories begin!”*
 - *“I teach exceptional needs in the district and would choose T1 so we could use it as a class.”*

Q9| Based on these seating and overlook example photos, please select the photo that is your preferred treatment for seating and overlook areas. (select one).

| O-1 | O-2 | O-3 | O-4 | O-5 |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 22% | 11% | 23% | 28% | 16% |

14 individual comments were provided and are summarized below:

- Safety, sustainability, and long-term maintenance should be considered for all design features.
- Confirm that lookouts are located so as not to conflict with trail and bridge users.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“I agree there will be good lookouts, but it has to be functional first. Make sure the spots to sit are really out of the way of the flow of bridge traffic.”*
 - *“Love the idea of a mixture of these if possible. But favorite is the swinging chairs for sure!”*
 - *“Having shade or overhang at seating and overlook would be good for people who need to sit out of the sun for a bit.”*

Do you have other comments about the IL-59 Bridge + Trail project? Please add them below.

95 individual comments were provided. Of the comments provided, 87 were supportive and 8 expressed concerns. A summary of concerns follows below:

- **Project costs.** Although grant funding would be applied to construct this bridge and trail, some expressed concerns that residents would be expected to contribute to the upfront and/or long-term maintenance costs related to the bridge and trail.
- **Project uses.** While many folks would like to see these areas better connected, some were concerned about potential inappropriate uses of the trail and bridge facilities, such as vandalism and loitering.
- **Maintenance concerns.** Some expressed concerns about long term maintenance costs of the bridge and trail, given Village staff's other maintenance commitments.

Repeated supportive responses and themes include:

- **Safety first!** Above all else, the safety and security of the bridge and trail users (as well as nearby drivers) are paramount and should guide the project development.
- **Plan for Long Term Sustainability and Maintenance.** Develop the bridge and trail project with special considerations for our region's climate and Village maintenance practices. Consider low maintenance material options, such as weathering steel, stained concrete, and composite wood materials.
- **Project support.** A safe way to cross IL-59 is much needed for families and individuals who live throughout the area and wish to safely bike or walk to nearby shopping, dining, schools, neighborhoods, and surrounding trails.
- **Project funding and timing.** There were some questions about project funding and timing. This project is currently in early planning phases and is being prepared to apply for federal funding. Project planning is expected to be complete by the end of 2021. Following this planning phase, the Village will be seeking funding to prepare construction documents and to construct the bridge and trail. Without having a funding source in place, a construction schedule cannot be determined at this time. That said, we are encouraged by the community's strong interest in this project and are hopeful that this will help the Village obtain funding.
- **Provide connectivity to surrounding destinations and Forest Preserve Trails.** Consider future connections to other destinations and trails such as: *Coordinate with the Forest Preserves to connect to trails near Schaumburg and IL-59; Coordinate with Elgin to connect to the Fox River Path; extend proposed trails along IL-59 to Bode Road; develop a bridge from Poplar Creek parking lot to the Library; Improve the sidewalk from IL-59 and Streamwood to Bartlett; Improve the intersection at Schaumburg and Sutton Roads.*
- **Add lighting to the bridge.** Incorporate appropriate lighting at the bridge for visibility and safety.
- **Incorporate signage.** Wayfinding signage was noted as an important feature to promote linkages to and from key destinations.

- **Consider dog stations, parking, vending and bathrooms along the trail.** There were some requests for additional trail amenities. While the anticipated funding sources may not be able to fund all requested amenities, this project offers opportunities to partner with other stakeholders, such as the Park District, to potentially develop coordinated improvements.
- **Limit truck traffic.** While truck traffic is not included in the project scope, the poll received several comments that request limiting truck traffic along Schaumburg Road, west of IL-59.
- Key quotes include:
 - *“I think this is going to be a great addition to the community. Walking has become an activity I have seen families doing a lot of over this last year. I hope that everyone continues to get outside and walk, last year I had never seen so many people out walking in the neighborhood by Hoosier Grove Park.”*
 - *“I’m so happy you are opening up the triangle trails to us!! And, then we can move over the dirt trails off Schaumburg! It is terrifying to cross 59 with kids. I usually just pack-up the bikes and ride up and down the Fox River. It will be nice to be able to have access to trails right from my house! Thanks!”*
 - *“A dream come true and a wonderful asset for our community.”*
 - *“I am very excited for Streamwood if this happens! We have lived here for 28 years original owners in the Little Creek Farm subdivision and plan to stay – this only makes me want to stay in the community more. Great job, keep it growing.”*
 - *“Have made the Oak Ridge neighborhood in Streamwood home for six years now. Avid bicyclist, hiker/walker, and outdoors enthusiast in general. Shepherding grandchildren now, and teaching them the joy of outdoor activity, exercise, appreciation, and respect for Mother Nature. Right now, I have a circuitous and, in some places, an unsafe ride to the current trailhead located by the intersection of Bartlett Road and Schaumburg Roads. I am 200% supportive of this effort and would love to know how else I can help make it happen.”*
 - *“this is awesome. I lived close to the streamwood border for years and was always so frustrated and scared to ride my bike over route 59. For years I would gamble and either ride on Irving Park road (scary as hell where there is no sidewalk and shoulder is non-existent) or Schaumburg (where sidewalk is super bumpy and riding in the street is dangerous as hell too) There was never a safe route via bike to get between the two. kudos to you for getting this going. I love it and hope to see it open up an entire generation of bikers and walkers use this to safely pass back and forth!”*

We really appreciate everybody’s practical and creative comments. Thank you again for sharing your thoughts via the community poll. All feedback is being thoroughly recorded and reviewed.

Please stay tuned to the Village’s website for announcements about the next public meeting, anticipated to take place in fall of 2021.

<https://www.streamwood.org/Community/Bridge-and-Path-Overview.aspx>