

Village of Lakemore, Ohio  
2023 Connecting Communities — Planning Grant Application  
"Spartan Trail Extension" Planning Study  
September 30, 2022



"The Progressive Village"

Village of Lakemore  
1400 Main Street  
Lakemore, Ohio 44250

Lakemore, Ohio  
Spartan Trail Extension



The areas where many of these students walk to school are along Canton Road and Sanitarium Roads. Walking on these roads are especially dangerous during winter months when roads are treacherous and there is little sunlight. A trail would remove the students from these dangerous roads.

The Village of Lakemore and Springfield Township are located southeast of Akron, surrounding Springfield Lake. Originally serving as vacation communities, the area was developed with narrow, meandering roads. These roads no longer accommodate for safe pedestrian travel. The lack of sidewalks also limits residents' access to Springfield High School and Junior High.

Springfield High School and Junior High are located at the Canton Road end of Sanitarium Road with the SUPER Learning Center at the other. Sanitarium Road has an average daily traffic of 4,650 vehicles. With over half of Sanitarium Road lacking sidewalks, this puts students and parents in close proximity to this high volume of traffic on a regular basis.

#### 6. Outcomes (15 points)

The expected outcome from this study is to create the best layout for the completion of the Spartan Trail and include all necessary safety precautions to provide for the students and residents.

This study will be a major boost to the safety of the Village's students and residents. The Village hopes to maintain a small-town atmosphere by allowing safer access to local places where they can exercise, take part in recreational activities and safely walk to schools and the commercial businesses in the community. This will have the additional benefit of reducing emissions, creating a cleaner, healthier community.

Success will look like students walking to and from school safe from interactions with vehicles. With a plan for "Spartan Trail Extension", success will look like two communities coming together as one.

#### 7. Connecting Communities Principles (30 points)

Increasing alternative transportation options to connect people and places:

By completing the Spartan Trail, residents and students will be able to easily access schools, more of Springfield Lake as well as nearby businesses. Since the financial stability of Springfield Local Schools is under watch, transportation for students attending Springfield Sr. / Jr. High was eliminated. Students of Springfield Township and the Village of Lakemore need a safe way to reach school. This collaborative study will benefit both communities for school, work, and recreation. The trail was always meant to include

pedestrian and bicycle traffic, so this project also provides a healthy option of travel that is better for the environment.

Promote Complete Street principles to create vibrant and safe places for all users:

Being able to walk safely on the heavily traveled Sanitarium Road to get to Springfield Local schools will be a boon to the residents and school children.

#### 8. Level of Use (10 points)

The Village of Lakemore has approximately 3,100 residents. The improvements that can be accomplished with this study grant will benefit all of them. It will also allow school children and their parents to travel safely on the Spartan Trail to get to Springfield Local schools. Improving access will make it easier and safer to connect to and from school for two communities during a time when limited transportation could impact the education of our youth.

**Village Council**  
Mrs. Laura Cochran  
President Pro Tempore  
Mr. Sam Ray  
Ms. Anne Snyder  
Ms. Heather Anderson  
Mr. Jon Strittmatter  
Mrs. Nicki Coontz

1921 - 2021



Richard Cole, Jr.

Mayor

Mrs. Tracy Sayers  
Village Administrator

Megan Pitman  
Fiscal Officer

Benjamin G. Chojnacki  
Law Director

Mr. Brett Reinbolt  
Fire Chief

Mr. Roy Smith  
Police Chief

[www.lakemoreohio.org](http://www.lakemoreohio.org)

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September 27, 2022

Ms. Heather Reidl  
Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study  
Suite 1300  
1 Cascade Plaza  
Akron, Ohio 44308

Re: Planning Grant

The Village of Lakemore and Springfield Township are collaborating to expand areas of access from the Spartan Trail. Springfield Township is working to extend the Spartan Trail up through Lakemore Plaza. The Village of Lakemore would like to improve connectivity between the Spartan Trail and the Metro transit system with the residential neighborhoods and commercial, recreational and governmental sites of the community.

The Village of Lakemore is applying for the 2023 Connecting Communities Planning grant to afford the "Living in Lakemore" study, that will help develop a plan for locating sidewalks in the Village adjacent to the Spartan Trail and Metro transit system to provide residents with a safe option for traveling. This study will also look at adding bikeways.

The Village of Lakemore Council agrees this trail will benefit both communities. Village of Lakemore Council will vote on legislation on Monday, October 3, 2022. Please accept this letter of intent as supporting documentation with the 2023 Connecting Communities Planning grant application.

Respectfully,

Mayor Richard Cole  
[Rich.cole@lakemoreohio.org](mailto:Rich.cole@lakemoreohio.org)

