



# PRESS RELEASE

**April 19, 2017.**

Officials from Lake County, Lake Villa Township, the Village of Lake Villa and Antioch School District 34 all recently approved an intergovernmental agreement collaborating on the construction of a five foot wide sidewalk on the north side of Grass Lake Road from Deep Lake Road to the existing sidewalk near the Oakland Ridge subdivision. The intergovernmental agreement provides for a \$200,000 contribution from Lake County no sooner than December 1, 2018. The agreement also states that Lake Villa Township, the Village of Lake Villa and Antioch School District 34 will equally share in the cost to design and construct the sidewalk above the County's contribution. The current estimate for the project is \$275,000. The sidewalk is anticipated to be constructed in 2019.

Lake County completed an analysis to identify gaps in bicycle and pedestrian accommodations along County highways in 2009. Using the results of this analysis, the county has undertaken yearly projects to fill these gaps. "Lake County believes that road corridors should accommodate all users and finding ways to connect the dots and fill the gaps in the non-motorized network is a high priority. This project will result in filling a bicycle and pedestrian gap identified in our 2009 gap analysis, and will provide a sidewalk for students attending the two schools in the area", stated Linda Pedersen, Lake County Board, District 1.

The agreement also provides for the construction of a sidewalk from Lakes Community High School to the Deep Lake and Grass Lake Road intersection. This improvement project will be solely funded by Community High School District 117.

Lake County has also announced that they will be resurfacing Grass Lake Road from Route 83 to Deep Lake Road this summer. As part of this resurfacing project, Lake County will be creating a pedestrian crosswalk at Painted Lakes Boulevard and Grass Lake Road and will be installing pedestrian crossing signals at Deep Lake and Grass Lake Roads. As part of this improvement, Lake County will also be installing four foot wide bike-friendly shoulders on both sides of Grass Lake Road within the project area.

The Village of Lake Villa budgeted funds in the upcoming year to install a street light on the south side of Grass Lake Road on Painted Lakes Boulevard. "This improvement will provide an additional street light at this new pedestrian crossing", stated Mayor Loffredo.

"The efforts of these five governmental agencies collaborating will result in significant pedestrian improvements along Grass Lake Road to make it safer for children to walk to and from school", stated Mayor Frank Loffredo.

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