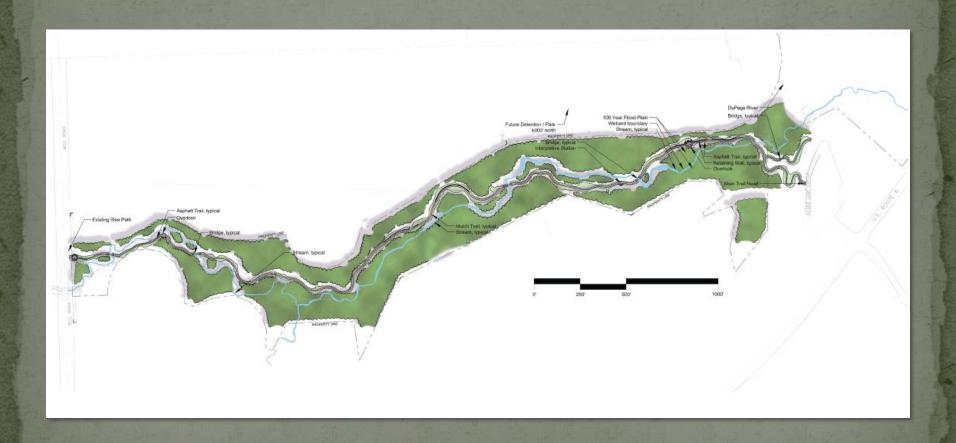
# Arroyo Trails Between DuPage River & Bell Road on Route 6



### What experts in field of education tell us

- Children greatly benefit from access to the outdoors
- When playing and learning outdoors a child's
  - Feelings of anxiety and depression decrease
  - Concentration and performance at school improves
  - Gaining early appreciation and love of nature

### What experts in field of health tell us

- Exercise that comes with a child's outdoor play and recreation
  - Improves weight management
  - Lowers high blood pressure
  - Contributes to overall improvement in physical health and fitness
- Young people who spend time in nature tend to be
  - More physically active
  - Less likely to be overweight
  - Strong advocates for the environment as adults

## Playing in natural settings help children

- Become more resistant to stress
- Have lower incidence of behavior disorders
- Have higher measure of self-worth
- Develop physical strength, balance and coordination

#### Outdoor play provides children many opportunities

- Social skill development
- Imagination and creativity
- Thinking and problem solving skills
- Sense of self
- Sense of connection
- Important life skills

# What is Arroyo Trails

- Unique 78-acre nature park and trail system
- Area for reintroducing children and families to nature
- Land preservation, protecting nature and enriching life

# What will Arroyo Trails feature

- Outdoor play and fitness areas
- Nature based education programs
- Two-mile loop walking trail
- A place for children, families, seniors and local companies and community service organizations to enjoy

### Conservation

- Protection of unique open space (woodland /wetland) in a suburban area is awesome.
- This project provides a way to maintain and protect the mile long creek to the DuPage River which benefits a number of subdivisions and farms from the upstream watershed.

### Education

- Geological history (Minooka moraine glacial deposit formed area.
- Woodland, wetland provide a multitude of outdoor experiences, offers School field trip classroom possibilities to ID plant and trees. This is a bird watcher paradise.
- Outdoor classroom/amphitheater for lectures and presentations.

A main goal is to just get people a chance to enjoy nature.

#### Recreation

- Morris Hospital and Healthcare Centers is providing outdoor fitness opportunities.
- Hiking, walking, paved areas for disability accessibility and strollers to walk the woods.
- Natural areas offer space for outdoor creative play, native habitat examples plus play sites
- Pavilion offers families to share fun together.

### Economic

- People visiting this park will be from throughout the region.
- Food, gasoline and other purchases will bring some benefit to our business folks.
- Also Result in attracting business and home seekers to consider our area.

## Arroyo Trails \$2.0 M Preliminary Project Budget

Trail construction

\$550,000

Trail and trailhead amenities

\$1,325,000

Planning and engineering

\$125,000

The almost 70 acre ravine property was dedicated as public park space by the original developer and acquired by the Park District at no cost. The Foundation and the Park District cooperated to purchase the trailhead property to provide convenient access and improvements.