Old Lorain Road – Rocky River Reservation Access Study

Riveredge Rd. and Bradgate Ave. Block Club Meeting (via Zoom)
Thursday, January 21, 2021
Bike and Pedestrian Connectivity between Cleveland’s West Park / Kamm’s Corners Neighborhood and the Cleveland Metroparks
Study Area and Project Partners

Project Partners:
- Cleveland Metroparks
- City of Cleveland and Ward 17 Councilperson Charles Slife
- West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development (WPKND)

The partners are working together to improve off-road connections to Rocky River Reservation from the east side of the river. Access for walkers, runners, bicyclists, individuals with mobility challenges, and families with strollers has long been a challenge due to the steep slopes and narrow pavement of Old Lorain Road. A feasibility study funded by the City of Cleveland and conducted in partnership with WPKND and Cleveland Metroparks is exploring options for a trail connection. The partners are seeking community input on the draft trail connection.
Why study park access in this area?

Cleveland Metroparks Strategic Goal

Rocky River Reservation Master Plan
Benefits of Trails and Parks:

- Physical health and exercise
- Mental health benefits and stress relief
- Access and transportation uses – potentially reduce parking loads
- Enhancing quality of life
- Social equity
- Economic value to adjoining properties and neighborhoods
- Promote access to park space from neighborhoods, businesses, and transit users
Site Visits and Analysis

- Staff from each partner agency and the engineering consultant walked the study area on several occasions to explore various routes.
- The lower section of Old Lorain Rd. can accommodate a separate trail adjacent to the road, however the upper section is too narrow and constrained by steep slopes.
- The upper segment of the trail will be routed through the park and will connect to Riveredge Road.
Site Analysis

The potential route for a 10’ wide trail is limited by site conditions including a narrow valley bordered by steep slopes, a wetland, and the locations of existing buildings and utilities.