

**CITY OF READING, OHIO
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – LEGISLATIVE SESSION
OCTOBER 21, 2025 – 7:30 PM**

For the full detail of this evening's Council Meeting, please visit www.watchreadingohio.com.

CALL TO ORDER

President of Council, Kevin Mattscheck called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President of Council, Kevin Mattscheck led those in attendance in a prayer and then the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mr. Powell, Mr. Bronner, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Boehner, Mrs. Kroeger, Mr. Thamann & Mrs. Eadicicco.

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Bo Bemmes, Auditor Sabrina Smith & Clerk of Council Carla Bronner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve October 7, 2025 (Regular) Council Minutes Meeting made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Bronner. Motion carried by voice vote.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Michelle Gottschlich & Brad Bowers (Project Manager) from the Tri-State Trails and gave a power point presentation to Council regarding the Mill Creek Triangle Trail Plan.





About Tri-State Trails



EXPAND

advocate for connecting and expanding the regional trail and bikeway network



LEARN

collect and maintain data on trails locally



ASSIST

provide technical assistance to local governments and community groups



CONNECT

convene trail planners, managers, advocates, and users to share best practices



PROMOTE

promote and celebrate existing trails in the tri-state



Benefits of Trails & Bikeways



encourage economic development



attract & retain talent



expand transportation options



enhance neighborhood connectivity



improve public health



increase transportation equity



promote environmental sustainability



connect recreation amenities

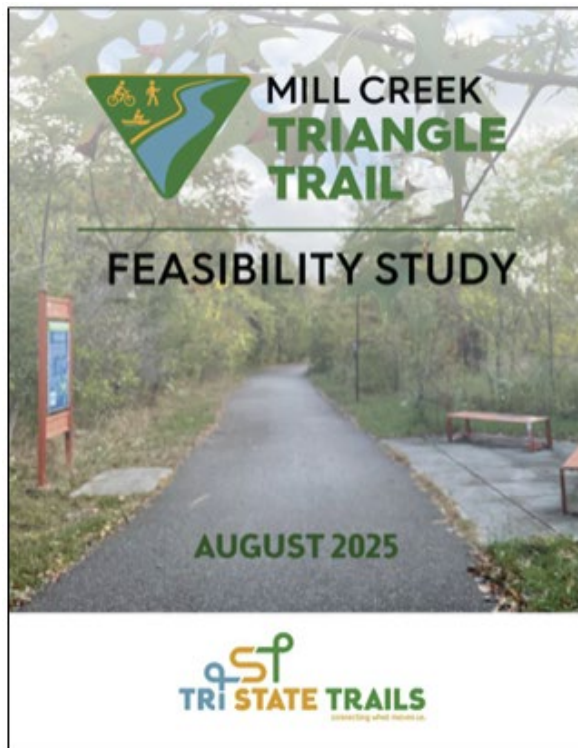


Mill Creek Triangle Trail Feasibility Study Objectives

1. Form an active transportation network in the center of Hamilton County
2. Explore trail alignment options and recommend a preferred route
3. Develop cost estimates for the preferred route and alternatives
4. Conduct public engagement for the proposed Mill Creek Triangle Trail
5. Position trail segments to apply for federal and state grant funding for construction

PROJECT PARTNERS

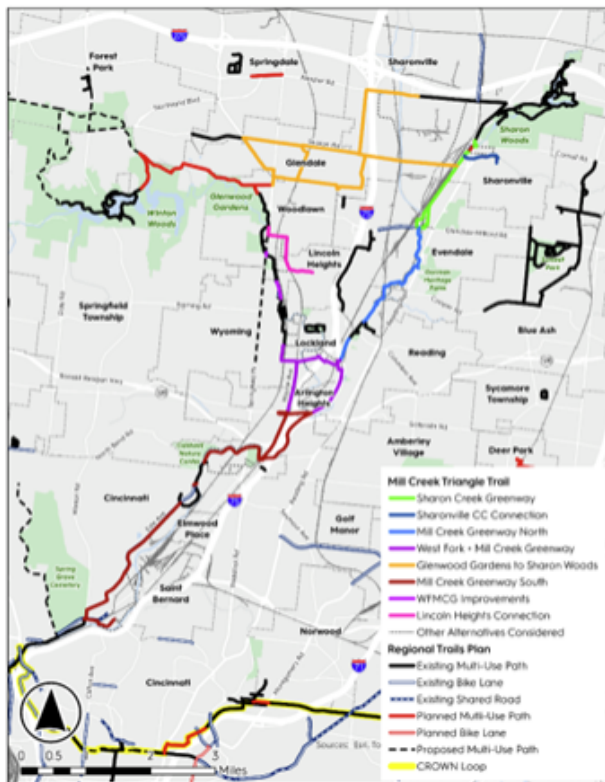




<https://tristatetrails.org/millcreektriangle/>

Mill Creek Triangle Trail Feasibility Study

- Feasibility Study is complete and posted on Tri-State Trails website
- Plan includes:
 - Background and existing conditions
 - Public engagement results
 - Design standards and preferred route
 - Funding and implementation strategy
- This is a fluid planning document
 - Intent is not for the route to be a binding commitment
 - Supports the spirit of the Mill Creek Greenway connection while allowing flexibility as conditions change



Mill Creek Triangle Trail Preferred Route

- Study area was broken into six focus areas in Central and Northern Hamilton County
- Focus areas are broken down into segments that could be implemented through grant applications
- Other Alternatives Considered – routes that the project team explored, but did not include in the final recommendation

Public Engagement Survey Results

- 5/1/2024 Public Open House: **65-70 attendees**
- Virtual Open House:
 - **2,707 Views**
 - **461 Participants**
 - **437 Comments**

Participant Location

383 Responses
Open

If you live within the Mill Creek Triangle geographic study area, please indicate your community. If you live outside the geographic study area, please use the "Other" option to indicate your community.

City of Sharonville	20 participants	5%
Village of Evendale	25 participants	7%
Village of Glendale	56 participants	15%
City of Wyoming	35 participants	9%
Village of Woodlawn	8 participants	2%
City of Reading	20 participants	5%
Village of Lincoln Heights	3 participants	1%
Village of Arlington Heights	4 participants	1%
Village of Lockland	11 participants	3%
Springfield Township	14 participants	4%
City of Cincinnati	101 participants	26%
Village of Greenhills	2 participants	1%
Other	86 participants	22%

Hamilton County	
Village of Glendale	1
City of Sharonville	1
City of Wyoming	1
Village of Greenhills	1
Springfield Township	1
City of Springdale	6
City of Madeira	4
Columbia Township	3
City of Forest Park	3
City of Norwood	3
City of Blue Ash	3
Sycamore Township	1
Dent	1
Village of Terrace Park	1
City of Hamilton	1
Finnestown	1
Green Township	1
Anderson Township	1
Village of Indian Hill	1
Miami Township	1
St. Bernard	1
Colerain Township	1

Butler County	
West Chester Township	4
City of Hamilton	2
Butler County	1
City of Fairford	1

Cincinnati Neighborhoods	
Madisonville	3
Hyde Park	1
Columbia Tuxedom	1
Pleasant Ridge	1
Wishwood	1
Cokely	1
East End	1
Mt. Washington	1
Downtown Cincinnati	1
Snyder Park	1
College Hill	1
Evanslon	1
East Side	1

NKY Communities	
Newport	3
Covington	3
Fort Mitchell	1
Independence	1
Northern Kentucky	1

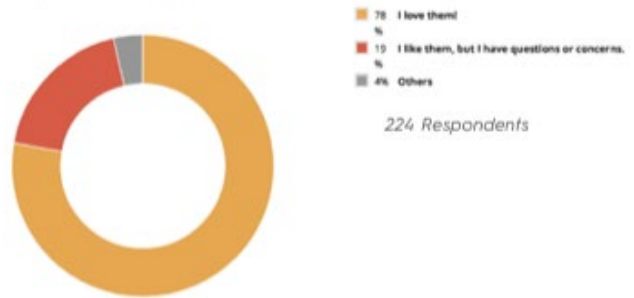
Clermont County	
Amelia	2
Union Township	1

Warren County	
Marietta	1

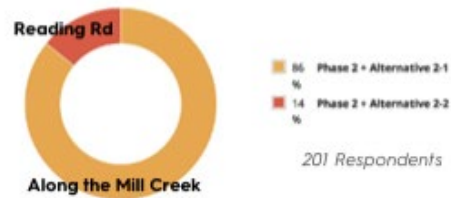
Mill Creek Greenway North Focus Area



What do you think of the proposed routes in the Mill Creek Greenway North Focus Area?



For the **Mill Creek Greenway North**, which alternative do you prefer?



Public Engagement

Mill Creek Greenway North Focus Area KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM PUBLIC INPUT

- Keep the trail along the creek
- Benefits to both alternatives – Reading Road makes more community connections, but level of stress is higher for pedestrians and cyclists without traffic calming
- FUTURE STUDY:
 - Connectivity to the trail on Aviation Way
 - Connections to Reading Rd businesses and residential areas are important so trail can be used for more than recreation
 - Wayfinding signage & improved maintenance for Koenig park trail

Mill Creek Greenway North Focus Area



80 | Mill Creek Triangle Trail Feasibility Study

Communities Impacted

City of Sharonville
Village of Evendale
City of Reading

Segment Length

Mill Creek Greenway
North - 2.95 miles

Mill Creek Greenway North

The northern section of the Mill Creek Greenway, extending from Glendale-Milford Road in Evendale to Benson Street in Reading, will connect destinations like Evendale Commons, The Acres Bar + Restaurant + Driving Range, Centennial Park, Hatley Field, and Koenig Park. Featuring scenic views and multiple crossings of the Mill Creek, this trail will play a critical role in the Triangle Trail network, offering transportation and recreation opportunities in a natural, creekside setting.

Segment 2A follows the Mill Creek for 1.14 mile from Glendale-Milford Road through Evendale Commons and the Formica Corporation site, to The Acres on Reading Road. Key property owners along this corridor include Mill Creek Alliance, Formica, and The Acres.

Segment 2B runs for 1.04 mile from The Acres to Koenig Park and Centennial Park in Reading. The northern half of this segment parallels the Mill Creek following a potential development site owned by the Port of Greater Cincinnati, and an existing rail corridor owned by Southwest Ohio

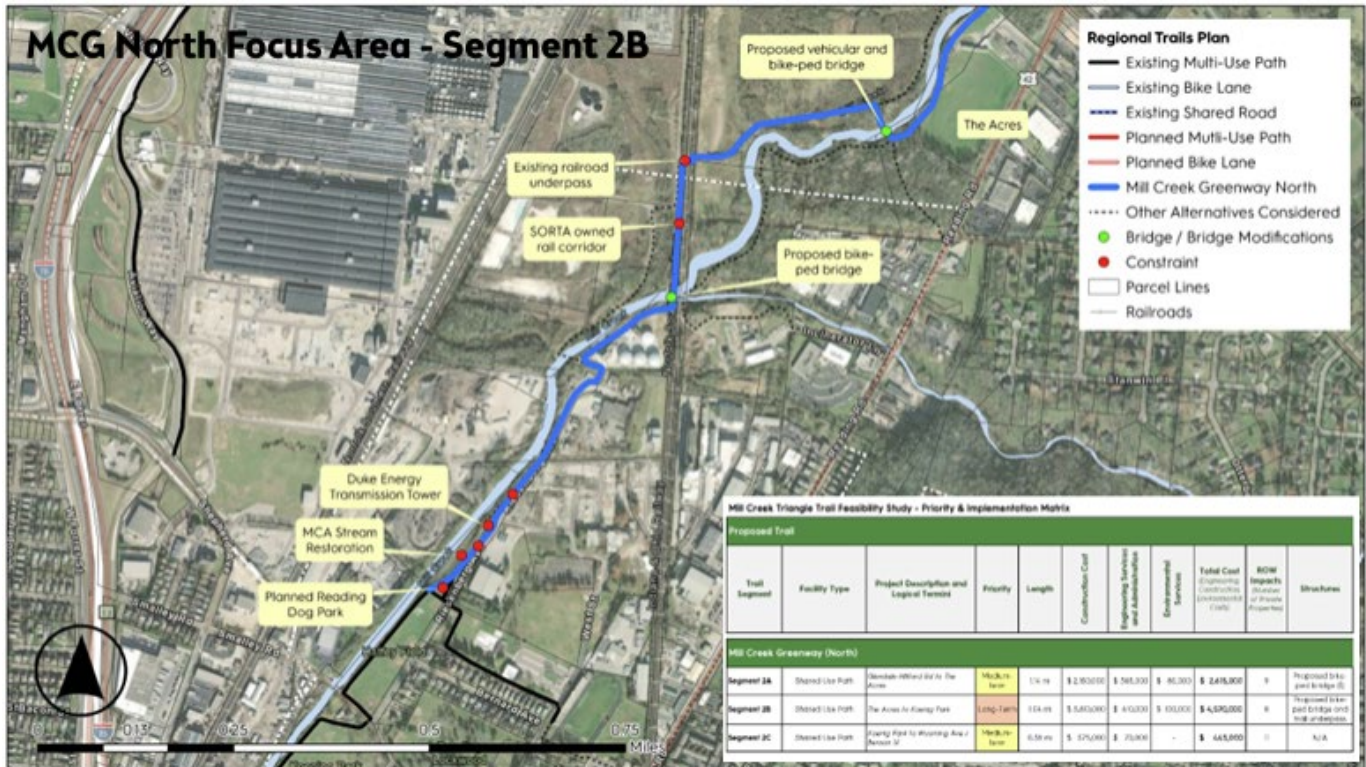
Potential Constraints

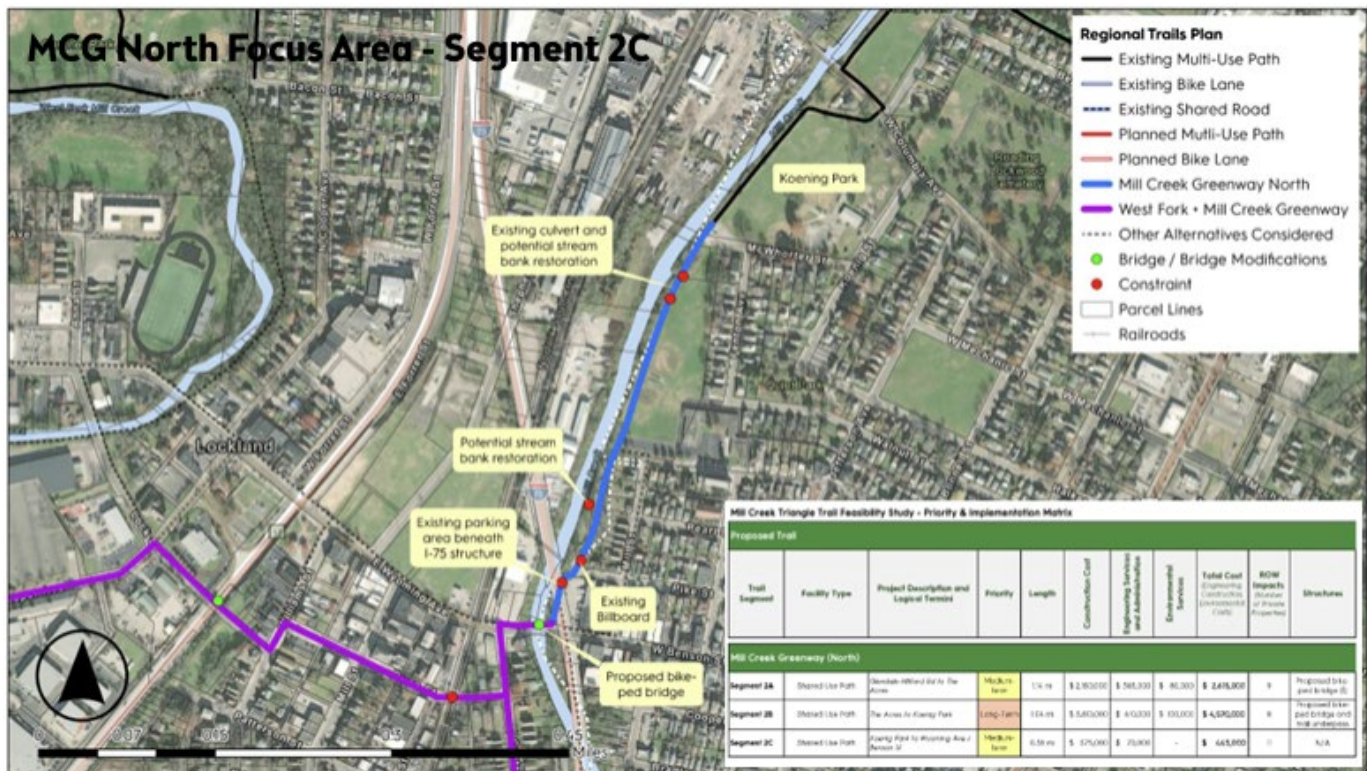
- Landscaping, utilities and monument signs
- Proposed Metro Transfer Station
- Proposed bike/ped bridge over Mill Creek
- MCA proposed wetlands project
- Proposed bike/ped facility on The Port's bridge over Mill Creek
- SORTA rail underpass
- Width constraints within SORTA rail corridor
- Proposed bike/ped facility on SORTA rail bridge over Mill Creek
- Existing culvert for recently constructed detention basin
- Avoid Duke Energy high voltage tower
- MCA stream restoration project & proposed Dog Park
- Falling box culvert outfall into Mill Creek
- Existing ball fields - Regrade to bring trail to base flood elevation
- Align trail to allow space for future stream bank restoration work (~25-ft)
- Structure / billboard encroaching into right-of-way
- Shared use path designed to accommodate existing parking area
- Proposed bike/ped bridge over Mill Creek - Avoid existing historic bridge

Trail Segment	Facility Type	Project Description and Logical Termini	Priority	Length	Construction Cost	Engineering, Planning, and Administration	Environmental Services	Total Cost (Engineering, Construction, and Administration)	ROW Impacts (Acres of Private Property)	Structures
Mill Creek Greenway (North)										
Segment 2A	Shared Use Path	Glendale-Milford Rd to The Acres	High	1.14 mi	\$1,225,000	\$125,000	\$10,000	\$1,360,000	0	Proposed bike/ped bridge (2)
Segment 2B	Shared Use Path	The Acres to Koenig Park	Long-Term	1.04 mi	\$1,500,000	\$180,000	\$10,000	\$1,690,000	0	Proposed bike/ped bridge (1) and 1st bridge (2)
Segment 2C	Shared Use Path	Koenig Park to Reading Rd (Segment 2)	High	0.77 mi	\$1,275,000	\$125,000	\$10,000	\$1,410,000	0	N/A

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MCG North Focus Area - Segment 2B





AUDIENCE ASKING PARTICIPATION: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS:

Katie Eadicicco read an email from Diane Lynd regard

“Good afternoon,

I wanted to reach out today and reiterate my support for the proposed dog park. I think it would be a wonderful addition to our

community. I walk almost every day in Reading with my dog. I would love to be able to bring my dog to a dog park right here in Reading instead of traveling to Blue Ash or some other neighboring community. Please consider supporting the dog park. I think it's a real win for our community.

*Thank you,
Diane Lynd-Ward 3"*

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

READING OF RESOLUTIONS:

(1) A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR

Motion made by Mr. Bronner, seconded by Mrs. Kroeger, to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mrs. Kroeger, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco to adopt the Resolution. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2025-41R

READING OF ORDINANCES:

(1) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH HYDE PARK LANDSCAPING AND BEST FENCE CINCINNATI FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COMMUNITY DOG PARK, AND NOT TO EXCEED \$64,000.00. *(Second Reading)*

Ordinance was declared a "second reading" only.

Motion made by Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Bishop, to amend the yard waste ordinance to include to word "leaves" in the title. Motion carried by 7-0 voice vote.

(2) AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE DEPOSITING OF GRASS CLIPPINGS, LEAVES AND OTHER YARD WASTE MATERIALS ONTO PUBLIC ROADWAYS AND SIDEWALKS.

Motion made by Mr. Thamann, seconded by Mrs. Eadicicco, to suspend the rule that requires a second and third reading. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote. Motion made by Mr. Boehner, seconded by Mr. Bishop to adopt the Ordinance. Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

ORDINANCE ADOPTED

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2025-43

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Bo Bemmes:

With Friday October 31 being Halloween, our Police Department will be keeping an eye out for our young trick or treaters between 6pm and 8pm. Please make sure young children have adult supervision, be careful when selecting costumes so that your kids can see and be seen, make sure your trick or treaters travel in groups and look out for cars and stay on well-lit streets and use sidewalks and instruct them to never enter a stranger's home or car.

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2am November 2 when we set our clocks back one hour.

Our Reading Fire Departments annual turkey raffle will be held on November 21 and 22 at the Haffey Fieldhouse

Our Public Works Department will begin winterizing our Parks starting November 3rd which means our restrooms will be shut down until the threat of freezing temperatures passes us next spring. Leaf pick up started and will continue until we prepare our City trucks for snow/ice removal usually early in December. Please do not park in front of your leaf pile and please do not put leaves in the street.

I attended a Hamilton County Municipal League Meeting where proposed changes to property taxes in Ohio were discussed including the potential for a vote of the people to eliminate property taxes entirely to be placed on the ballot next year if enough signatures are collected. It has been estimated that if property taxes were eliminated entirely that the taxes on earnings would have to go to 10.2% or sales tax to 20% to make up for the lost revenue. Approximately 67% of property taxes go to fund schools and 3.52% go to fund our City operations (approximately \$940,000 per year)

Our Reading Fire/EMS Department is offering CPR and AED Training on Saturday November 8 from 10am till 11:30am in our City of Reading Council Chamber. The cost for certification is \$20. Class size is limited to 25 people and is only for residents of Reading, Arlington Heights and Amberly Village. Find out more on our Fire Department web page readingfdohio.org

We ask everyone to SLOW DOWN as you drive and keep an eye out for our young students as they try to make their way to and from school.

Thanks to those of you who contacted us our Safety and Services Director Patrick Ross contacted Duke and new and improved lighting is going to happen soon near Reading Community Schools and MND.

I want to again thank the many volunteers who give so generously their time, talents and in many cases a lot of their money to serve the youth of our community as volunteers. Our Reading Youth Football and Cheerleading, Reading Youth Soccer, Reading Youth Wrestling and our VYO are second to none.

I want to thank our Reading Chamber of Commerce and our Reading Bridal district for all that they do to help keep the businesses that we have and their help in attracting new businesses to locate here.

Please get to know your neighbors and look out for them and call 911 immediately if you see any suspicious or illegal activity.

Please sign up for emergency alerts and warnings from Hamilton County Alert and Smart 911 at AlertHC.org

Please continue to pray for all who are in need. Our Chief of Public Works Darrell Courtney is recovering from a very serious surgery and is doing well and is still in need of our prayers.

Call me at 513-509-8619 with any questions, comments or concerns

Katie Eadicicco: Reading Holiday Walk - Saturday December 6, from 6pm-8pm

Sabrina Smith: Discussed cancelling the December 16th, 2025, Legislative Council Meeting and scheduling a Special Council meeting for the appropriations adjustments on December 23, 2025, in Council Chambers, at 7:30 pm. President of Council, Kevin Mattcheck confirmed the official cancellation of the December 16, 2025, meeting and scheduling of the December 23, 2025 Special Council Meeting.

Bob Bemmes: Requested to have the curtains in Council Chambers taken down/replaced/fixed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn came from Mr. Boehner, and was seconded by Mrs. Kroeger. Motion carried by voice vote. There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:08 pm.

X _____
Carla Bronner
Clerk of Council

X _____
Kevin Mattscheck
President of Council