

Ohio River Trail Council pursues plan to connect communities

By LARISSA DUDKIEWICZ, [Tribe LIVE](#)

January 18, 2016 SEWICKLEY, PA — An organization promoting the extension of the Montour Trail is asking involved communities to create a “complete streets” program to coordinate the planned bike trail.

The program would offer a cohesive, comprehensive plan that connects the involved communities, John Orndorff, a member of the Ohio River Trail Council told Sewickley Council on Monday.

The Beaver County-based council is looking to begin work this year to extend the Montour Trail through Coraopolis to the Sewickley Bridge in Moon. The plan could cost \$1.5 million.

Phase two of the project would involve crossing the Ohio River and extending the trail from the Sewickley Bridge to Center, Beaver County. The route would use municipal roads.

Orndorff told the council that he is exploring the possibility of continuing the bike trail from Sewickley along the north shore to Baden, Freedom and points down river.

“What needs to happen is for communities to explore an expanded vision of what a complete streets network can do,” he said.

The complete streets program would offer a cohesive, comprehensive plan that connects the involved communities with the same signage and trail elements.

Sewickley is the first municipality to hear the proposal, which Orndorff intends to take to communities from Coraopolis to Beaver County.

The communities would need to hold workshops, which Orndorff said require funding.

Council President Susan Aleshire said council will look at the agreement and get back to Orndorff.

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