

Big Lake Road Trail under Construction

The Big Lake Road Trail is now under construction, there will be some slight disruptions to traffic as it is being built. The contractor is KGM Contractors of Angora, MN. The trail timeline is from a start date of May 20 with the completion date of July 31. This may be extended by two weeks because the original contract start was May 6 and had to be pushed to May 20 because of a permit restriction. The new trails length will be 1.3 miles long running from University Road to Pinewood Drive.

In 2011, representatives of the Fond du Lac Reservation and Carlton County began working on a project to construct a shared-use path for the safe and convenient travel of bicyclists and pedestrians from the Fond du Lac facilities on University Road to the City of Cloquet. Such a project would also enhance roadway safety. This is a cooperative project with funding from the Carlton County State-Aid construction account, but the majority of the funding is from FDL and BIA Roads apportionments. Public meetings were held in 2011 and 2013 as input was gathered from local residents and design options were presented. There were delays in getting the project to construction due to Right-of-Way acquisition and regulatory agency permitting. The project was also put on hold for a proposed Big Lake Sanitary District sewer line between Big Lake and the City of Cloquet. Unfortunately, legislative funding was not provided for that project. The last delay on this project was to allow for the clinic expansion to be completed. Final plans were updated and approved on March 12, 2019. The project was advertised and bids were opened on April 8, 2019.

