



Imagine the Possibilities.

CORRIDOR PLAN FOR IL ROUTE 53, WILL COUNTY, IL

GINKGO Planning & Design, Inc. with HVS, KLOA, SB Friedman & RTKL

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*Well if you ever plan to motor west
Just take my way that's the highway that's the best
Get your kicks on Route 66*

"Route 66," Bob Dylan

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The Will County Land Use Department, Illinois

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**There is a place
Just beyond Chicago
Stretching from Joliet to Braidwood
At the confluence of Three Rivers**

Regional Greenway Vision, CMAP GO TO 2040 Plan

The place is Southwest Will County



Where sports and entertainment meet the serene beauty of national treasures like



the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery



and the Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie



Where acres of rolling landscape are dotted with

authentic small towns and main streets





rich in history and community spirit



And running right through the Center of it all is a ribbon of Highway that is one of the most Famous roads in the world



Historic Route 66, the **Mother Road**





Come and Play
Come and Explore

Come and Discover This Place and **Will County's Route 66**



Imagine the Possibilities.

A family wakes up early one Saturday and heads for the train station. This is no ordinary Saturday – today, the parents will unwind in a real *Midwestern Prairie*, and the kids will learn about food and history, while getting some exercise. As the Metra train reaches the last stop at *Manhattan*, the kids jump down and run for the bike share station, impatient to get on the *Wauponsee Trail* their friends have been praising. The trail is cool, with the summer sun poking through the thick leaves of the trees. The empty bike baskets fill everyone with anticipation.

To continue exploring this beautiful land, the family rents an electric car from the local car share and heads for the local festival

in *Historic Braidwood*. By now, the kids are huge fans of the *Route 66* story, and want to see all **6 stops on Route 66** in the area. *Wilmington's Gemini Giant* becomes their new, tall family friend.

The weekend is measured not in hours, but in accomplishments: farm-fresh egg omelets with fresh herbs at a local farm; a long hike through *Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie*; a rewarding picnic of freshly-baked bread and locally-produced meats along the clear waters of *Prairie Creek*, and fishing for the first time at the *Kankakee River*. The evening ends with a family musical at the glitzy *Rialto Square Theatre* in *Joliet* and a good night's sleep at the local bed-and-breakfast.

Satisfied with their amazing weekend, the family boards the last train at *Joliet's Union Station*, coming home for a late dinner of fresh, locally-produced food. The kids tell their parents:

every weekend should be like this one!