Draft Bike Network: Access to Large Employers

Route Alternative: Hospital Campus Trail
There is an existing walking path south of the NKC hospital that could be expanded to provide direct bike connections to the hospital and Cerner campuses. This connection would require some new construction on Clay Edwards Drive, Vernon Street, and Walker Road. It would also require some adjustments to the signal at Armour and Walker Roads to connect to Birmingham Road.

ADVANTAGES
+ Direct connection to NKC Hospital & Cerner campuses
+ Avoids levee and creek crossing
+ Far from busy Armour Road

DISADVANTAGES
- Requires crossing Armour Road to continue east
- Some steep topography

COST: $$$$ $5
PARTNERS REQUIRED: NKC Hospital, MoDOT

Route Alternative: Armour Road Trail
There is continuous right of way on the south side of Armour Road where the existing Diamond Parkway cycle track could connect in a short, direct path to Birmingham Road and continue further east. However this route is constrained between a highway and railroads, crosses a levee, and also requires a new bridge structure to traverse a wide creek. These factors complicate implementation for this option.

ADVANTAGES
+ Short, flat, direct path to Birmingham Road and connections further east

DISADVANTAGES
- Requires crossing Armour Road to access NKC Hospital and Cerner campuses
- Requires new bridge structure

COST: $$$$$
PARTNERS REQUIRED: MoDOT, Levee District

Three of North Kansas City’s largest employers: North Kansas City Hospital, Cerner, and Harrah’s, are all located east of I-35 with major physical barriers that create challenges for connectivity. One of the key goals for a North Kansas City bike network is to identify a safe and comfortable connection between these campuses and the rest of North Kansas City. Connecting through this area to existing bicycle infrastructure on Chouteau Trafficway is also a priority.

Birmingham Road & Riverboat Drive
East of Walker Road, Birmingham Road is a gravel path with limited access to cars. This path provides a straight, flat, low-stress connection east. A new switchback trail connection is needed to connect Birmingham Road to Riverboat Drive and Chouteau Trafficway. The entirety of this connection is located in public right of way or North Kansas City property.
Draft Bike Network: Riverfront Trails

West River Loop
Today, a safe and comfortable route exists for approximately 80% of a 11.3 mile Missouri River Bike Loop that connects North Kansas City, Briarcliff, Riverside, Downtown KCK, Downtown KCMO, and many other destinations. Comprised of a mix of trails, shared paths, and on-street bicycle facilities, this bike loop crosses the Missouri River twice, and links to regional trails and connections in four different counties. Marketing and branding of the bike loop can help attract new visitors to North Kansas City and support local businesses oriented around the trail connection.

East River Loop
The City of Kansas City, Missouri and the Port Authority have planned for riverfront trail connections on the south side of the Missouri River that would provide a continuous trail from the West Bottoms through the River Market, Berkley Park, Riverfront Park, to the Chouteau Bridge crossing. With a North Kansas City levee trail connection on the north side of the river, a Missouri River loop trail would expand connectivity and create a signature amenity that serves residents and attracts visitors. The planned replacement Buck O’Neil bridge is anticipated to have bicycle and pedestrian facilities and could provide a western river crossing to complete the loop trail. Implementation of a levee trail requires partnership with the Levee District to address a variety of safety, security, and engineering considerations.