This bike and jogging path completes the existing trail system that runs along the North Branch of the Chicago River. Scheduled to commence construction in autumn 2017, the Chicago Department of Transportation is commissioning the work.

This unconventional design strategy involves separating the path from the riverbank and elevating the entire structure above the water level. The existing trail network currently extends from the south on the east side of the river and from the north on the west side of the River. There is no connection from Clark Park (Addison St.) to Horner Park (Irving Park Rd.).

The design elevates the trail on piers and locates it within the river, providing a sustainable solution that preserves the maximum amount of vegetation and riverbank stability while minimizing scouring and erosion. The resulting effect is a “path through the woods.”
The Bicycle Snake (2014) is an ingenious piece of urban infrastructure. The confluence of a dense urban retail center, an active pedestrian waterfront, and Copenhagen’s multitude of cyclists combined to create a dangerous and chaotic environment.

The architects’ solution takes the form of an elevated urban cycling “highway,” which separates bikers from pedestrians, while incorporating a poetic and elegant sculptural shape. The resulting bridge provides joggers and cyclists with breathtaking views of the harbor, as well as a rain-sheltered pedestrian environment for the retail shoppers below. For the evening hours, integrated lighting creates a continuous luminous path, not only increasing safety but delivering an icon for this once anonymous part of the city.