



SW MI Non-Motorized Plan
Focus: Van Buren County
Connecting Communities One Trail At A Time

WELCOME

1. Sign in

2. Fill out a name tag

Van Buren County Non-Motorized Summit

Welcome – Marcy Hamilton, SWMPC and Scott Reinert, South Haven/Van Buren County Convention & Visitors Bureau

MDOT Non-Motorized Initiative – Brian Sanada, MDOT and Marcy Hamilton

Antwerp – Mattawan Trail Update – Sam Leatch, Wightman

Kal-Haven/Van Buren Trail Updates - Jill Sell, MDNR

Pure MI Trail Town Designation – Scott Reinert, South Haven/Van Buren County Convention & Visitors Bureau

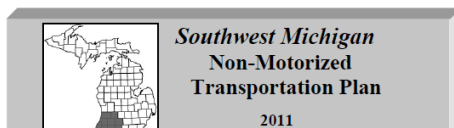
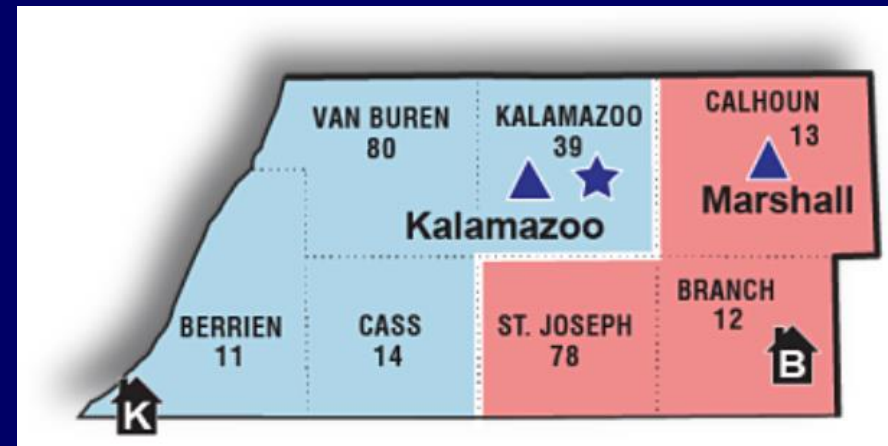
Around the Room Discussion– Non-Motorized Activity

Break Out Session/Report Out

Next Steps– Marcy Hamilton

Regional Nonmotorized Plan – Primary Goals

- Document the Existing and Proposed Network
- Identify Opportunities to Enhance Nonmotorized Transportation
- Help Prioritize Nonmotorized Investment
- Foster Cooperative Planning Across Municipal & County Boundaries and Continue to Coordinate These Efforts



Connecting Communities: A Regional Vision for
Non-Motorized Transportation in Southwest
Michigan

(Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo,
St. Joseph and Van Buren Counties)

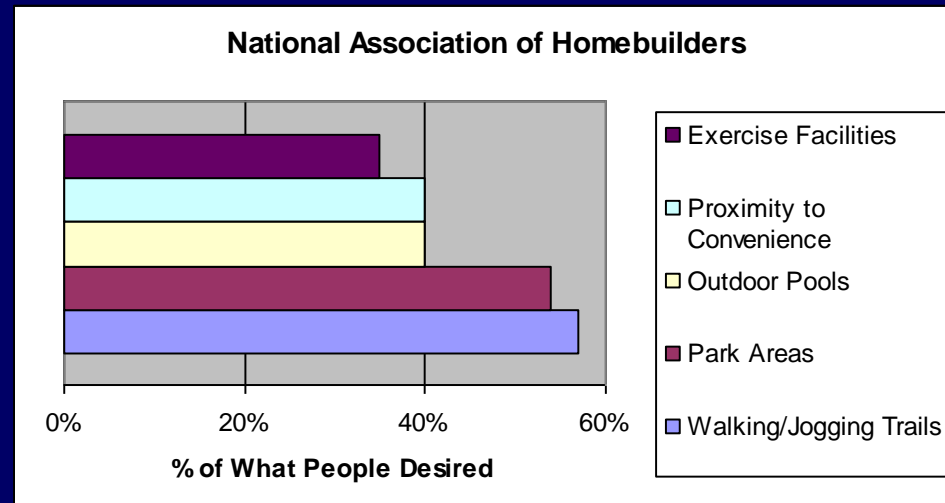
Developed by the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
with funding from the
Michigan Department of Transportation



Why Invest in Non-Motorized?

- Retains and Attracts Businesses, Young Adults and Families
- Increases Real Estate Values
- Promotes Tourism
- **Increases Tax Revenue**
- Encourages Physical Activity (health)
- Improves Safety

In most metro areas studied, every one-point increase in the 100-point Walk Score scale is associated with an increase in home value of \$500 - \$3,000.



Bicycling in MICHIGAN



Population: 9,897,264

Total annual economic impact of bicycling

\$668 million



Bicycling retail revenue
\$63 million

44%

Residents who place an annual value of at least \$100 on the ability to use bicycle infrastructure

Total annual spending associated with bicycling events and vacations in Michigan

\$38 million

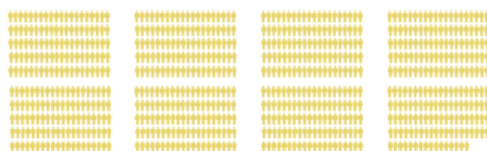
39%

Households that reported that someone in their home used a bike for transportation in the last year

People employed by bicycling industry: 796

28%

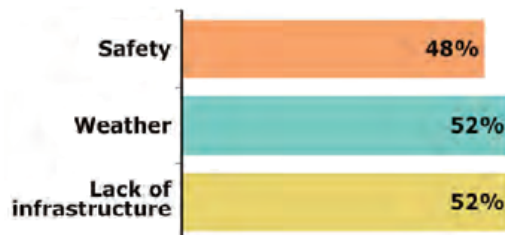
Bicyclists who commute by bicycle at least twice a week



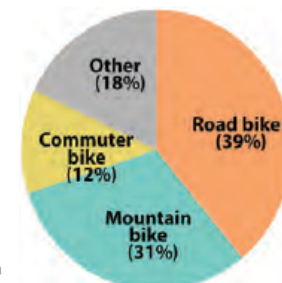
4%

Residents who participated in a bicycling event or bicycle-oriented vacation in Michigan in the past year

Key barriers to bicycling



Top primary bicycle types



Study funded by  MDOT

For more information contact Josh DeBruyn, MDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator at debruynj@michigan.gov

Crash Facts

(5-yr average, 2012-16)

Berrien County

- 1.3%** Ped/Bike crashes percent of total crashes
- 15.0%** Ped/Bike fatalities percent of total fatalities
- 10.3%** Ped/Bike serious injuries percent of total serious injuries

Cass County

- 0.8%** Ped/Bike crashes percent of total crashes
- 14.9%** Ped/Bike fatalities percent of total fatalities
- 5.3%** Ped/Bike serious injuries percent of total serious injuries

Van Buren County

- 0.8%** Ped/Bike crashes percent of total crashes
- 12.8%** Ped/Bike fatalities percent of total fatalities
- 4.9%** Ped/Bike serious injuries percent of total serious injuries

Define Non-Motorized

- **Non-Motorized Travel**

- Biking, Walking

- **Users**

- Families

- School Children

- Commuters

- Carless

- elderly, disabled, low income, by choice

- Long Distance Riders





7-County Non-Motorized Plan

Focus: Van Buren County

Connecting Communities One Trail At A Time

Southwestern Michigan Bicycle Travel Information



COUNTIES OF

Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, Allegan, Barry
Calhoun, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo, Branch

Southwest Michigan Non-Motorized Transportation Plan – 2019



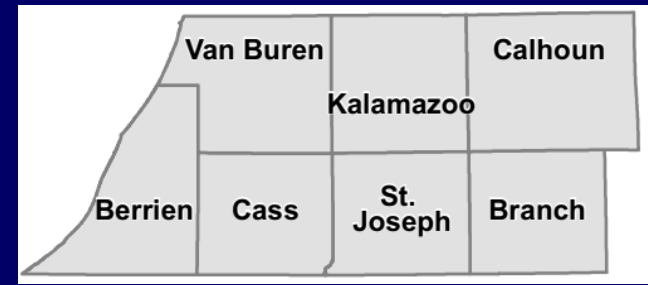
Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo,
St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties



Developed by the Southwest Michigan Planning
Commission with funding from the
Michigan Department of Transportation



What Is The Scope?



- **Transportation Focus - MDOT Funding**
 - biking and pedestrian facilities
- **Scale – 7 counties**
 - Cannot show everything!
- **Focus on Regional Connections**
 - Local plans/projects that tie into regional efforts



On Road Facilities

- Paved Shoulder
(4 foot minimum)



- Bike Lane
(5 foot minimum)



- Shared Lane
Marking/Sharrows



- Bike Routes

Off Road Facilities

(10 foot minimum)

-Shared Use Path

Improved – paved or crushed fines

Unimproved – gravel or dirt



- Side Path



Moving Forward – Tips for Success

- Champion / Organizer
- Find a Feasible Route
 - who has jurisdiction?
- Build Partnerships
 - Involve Local Government Officials
- Seek out Resources
 - (SWMPC, Road Department, MDOT, NPS, etc)
- Build Public Support
- Understand Funding Options
 - Be Prepared to Raise Money



Low Cost Ideas

- Add **signage** (bike route signs)
- Add **pavement markings**
 - “sharrow” symbols, bike lane markings, crosswalk markings, etc.
- Restripe Roads – Reducing lanes
- Add **Bike Racks** or **Bike Repair Station** (downtowns and destinations)



- **Antwerp – Mattawan Trail Update – Sam Leatch, Wightman**
- **Kal-Haven/Van Buren Trail Updates - Jill Sell, MDNR**
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What's Happening In Van Buren County?

- Around the room discussion about non-motorized activities or interests

Break Out Session Goals



1. Review accuracy of non-motorized facilities
2. Give input on desired/planned non-motorized facilities
3. Prioritize Facilities

Marking on Your Maps

- **Existing Facilities**

- Shared Use or Side Path – BLUE

- Paved Shoulder/Bike Lane – BLACK

- **Planned or Desired Facilities**

- On Road - PURPLE

- Off Road – GREEN

PRIORITY – ORANGE



Report Out



What's Next?

- Public input sessions will be held in the remaining counties
- SWMPC will put information into a GIS
- Analyze gaps
- Finalize regional priorities
- You can track progress on the website:
<https://www.swmpc.org/nonmortorizedmap.asp>

Thank You

