

## 2023-2026 FHWA Carbon Reduction Program Project Application

Click "Enable Editing" to begin filling out this form. You may save this form at any time.

If you need assistance, please contact Brandon Kovnat, SWMPC Associate Planner.

Email [kovnatb@swmpc.org](mailto:kovnatb@swmpc.org) or call (269) 925-1137 x 1524

### Section 1. Applicant Information

Applicant Name	Berrien County Road Department		
Contact Name	Kevin Stack	Title	Engineering Supervisor
Phone Number	269-925-1196	Email	kstack@bcroad.org
Sponsor (If applicable)			
Engineer/Consultant (If applicable)	Jason Marquardt, Abonmarche Consultants, Inc		
Phone Number	269-926-4565	Email	jmarquardt@abonmarche.com

### Section 2. Project Information & Costs

Project Name: Lakeview Trail		
City/Village/ Township: Benton Charter Township		County: Berrien
Project Location <i>(short description of where the project is located)</i>	M-63 ROW between Higman Park Road and Monte Road	
Which Emissions form is being used? (list the form name not the MDOT form number)	FHWA CMAQ Emissions Calculator Toolkit - Bike and Pedestrian Emissions	
Work Description <i>(Short description of work being performed. Please provide enough information for eligibility to be determined)</i>	Construction of approximately 2.5 miles of 10' wide paved, off road non-motorized trail in the east side ROW of M-63. Trail will include boardwalk and culverts over low lying areas as needed.	
Describe how the project will reduce congestion and/or emissions	<p>The trail will provide a safe way for bicycles or pedestrians to use other methods of transportation than a car to travel between several business, residential and recreation destinations along M-63. The segment would connect to other existing 10 foot non-motorized trail segments in the area, expanding the range of non-motorized transportation. Eliminating multiple local vehicle trips will both reduce congestion and emissions.</p> <p>The trail is supported by Whirlpool Corporation who views this as an important connector for employees who are travelling between facilities in Benton Harbor, Benton Twp and St. Joseph. It offers</p>	

	health benefits in addition to emissions reductions. Employee counts at Whirlpool facilities include 583 at Global HQ, 172 at BH Tech Center, 121 at Edgewater Tech Center, 61 at Global Consumer Design, 20 at Multimedia Center, 714 at Riverview Campus and 496 at St. Joseph Tech Center. Many of these employees can use the trail instead of cars to get back and forth to destinations the trail supports and connects to.		
Project Cost <i>Only include CRP eligible expenses</i>	\$ 2,010,957	Proposed Year of Funding	2025
Minimum Local Match – 20% of eligible costs	\$402,191		
Can you supply additional match beyond the minimum required 20% If so how much?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Amount \$ An additional \$300,000 from MNRTF is pending a December 2023 decision. \$1,608,766 from TAP grant and \$402,191 local match are currently secured.		
CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions Benefit (from Emissions form)			

### Section 3. Performance measures

Besides emissions reductions what other performance measures will the project contribute to? ( <i>select all that apply</i> ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Pavement Condition <input type="checkbox"/> System Reliability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian/Bicycle Connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Transit State of Good Repair	If you checked any of the Performance Measures please indicate how the project will improve them: Safety - currently there is no dedicated pedestrian or non-motorized path for residents along M-63 to use to connect to other parts of the Township or City. M-63 is a high speed corridor and its shoulder is a dangerous option for pedestrians, inexperienced or young cyclists. The trail would provide a safe way for users to get from point A to B without a car along this corridor.  Connectivity - A pedestrian or bicycle friendly north-south path from Higman Park Road to Monte Road does not currently exist. The construction of the non-motorized trail along M-63 is essential to link current and future public improvements into a unified, multi-jurisdictional public trail system. Future plans include development of additional trail segments to the north that will ultimately connect with existing trail networks in Van Buren County, the City of South Haven and the Kal-Haven Trail to Kalamazoo. It will also provide connectivity for a low income, minority population who has fewer resources to utilize for transportation or recreation options. An additional benefit is that spending time outdoors can help local residents cope with stressful situations and being able to walk to the beach and look out over the waters of Lake Michigan can have a calming effect that can lead to improved mental health.
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### Section 4. Additional Questions

Question	Y/N	If Yes, Provide Brief Explanation of How the project will meet these Criteria

Will the project be ready for obligation by July 1 of the year in which it's programmed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	The schedule anticipates an October 2024 construction award date and March 2025 construction start date.
Will this project use multiple funding sources/be combined with another Non-CRP project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	TAP funds have been conditionally committed. MNRTF and EGLE funds have been applied for. Since recent bid costs have come in high, additional funds are being sought in anticipation of higher bids from contractors. An application to the Michigan Trails fund will be submitted in January 2024. Friends of Berrien County Trails will be supporting this project through fundraising efforts and a congressional set aside request as well.
Is the project being carried out by a sponsored agency, or is a private entity providing funding, materials, or services in support of this project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	MDOT TAP program will manage the project. Whirlpool Foundation funds are assisting this project.
Does the project require Right of Way (ROW) acquisition or an easement?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>If yes, attach a signed letter from that agency granting permission to implement all or part of this project in their right-of-way.</b>
Does the this project require crossing a railroad?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

#### Section 5. Estimated Project Schedule (Please be as accurate as possible)

Activity	Estimated Date
Resolution of Support for Local Match Submitted to SWMPC	10/27/2022
Project Application Submitted to MOT	1/15/2024
Grade Inspection Package Submitted to MDOT	5/6/2024
Grade Inspection Meeting Scheduled	6/7/2024
Final Plan and Estimate to MDOT	7/31/2024
Right of Way (ROW) certified	7/5/2024
Rail Road Permits	NA
Environmental Mitigation	NA
Project Obligated	8/2/2024
Project Letting	10/4/2024
Construction Start	3/1/2025
Project Completion	8/29/2025

Enter NA for any activity that doesn't apply to the project.



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
SOUTHWEST REGION

PAUL C. AJEGBA  
DIRECTOR

October 4, 2022

Mark Heyliger, Managing Director  
Berrien County Road Department  
2860 E. Napier Ave.  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Dear Mark Heyliger:

The Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT's) Coloma Business Office is in support of the Berrien County Road Department's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant application. We understand that this application is for the proposed non-motorized trail along M-63, commonly known as The Lakeview Trail, and the trail, as submitted, will lie completely within the MDOT right-of-way (ROW).

The Lakeview Trail will connect several existing non-motorized trails and is part of a proposed regional network of planned non-motorized trails. The trail will be 2.5 miles of 10-foot paved non-motorized trail. This trail segment is in the MDOT Southwest Michigan Region Non-Motorized Transportation Plan 2020, as a priority north-south corridor to implement. It is also part of the Berrien County Master Trail Plan. Trailhead points would include utilizing an existing public parking lot at Higman Park Road and a new trailhead on Monte Road on the Whirlpool Corporate campus.

Upon approval of the grant, we will work with you to recognize the specific details of the improvements within our ROW. Some of these have already been identified as:

- culverts and boardwalks will be needed to cross low-lying sections along the trail,
- cross walks will be added at street intersections, and
- occasional utility pole relocation will be required along the route.

The final plan of proposed work will need to be reviewed and approved by MDOT for any work that takes place within our ROW prior to construction and a permit will be required. We look forward to working with you on this project. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at [PfeifferP@michigan.gov](mailto:PfeifferP@michigan.gov) or 269-849-1165.

Sincerely,

Pete Pfeiffer, P.E.  
Manager  
Coloma Business Office





October 6, 2023

Lawrence Sobson and Kevin Sayers  
Urban and Community Forestry Program  
Michigan DNR  
Lansing, MI

RE: Lakeview Trail Development – Authorization for Tree Planting in Easement Area

Dear Mr. Sobson and Sayers,

Harbor Shores would like to share their enthusiastic support for development of the Lakeview Trail along M-63 from Higman Park Road to Monte Road. Harbor Shores is a strong advocate for non-motorized trails in our community, as they increase economic vibrancy, safety, transportation options and promote physical activity, tourism and community connections.

The proposed trail plan includes a pathway up a hill on Harbor Shores property adjacent to Higman Park Road. Harbor Shores is happy to coordinate trail development efforts on and around our property and facilitate them in any way we can. This includes providing easement access up the hill to create the trail path. As part of the process, we understand that tree removal on Harbor Shores property will need to occur. We support and authorize replacement plantings of these trees in our easement area.

We look forward to the development of this new amenity in our region and encourage the Department of Natural Resources to award Urban and Community Forestry grant funds to support the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "CJ Cook", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Christopher J. Cook, PE  
Managing Director  
Harbor Shores Community Redevelopment

**TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY MICHIGAN,**  
Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** the Berrien County Road Department, an eligible Act 51 Agency for Berrien County, is applying for funds through MDOT from the Transportation Alternatives Program to construct a non-motorized trail along M-63 between Higman Park Road and Monte Road, called the Lakeview Trail; and

**WHEREAS,** MDOT requires a formal resolution of support from the public agency that will be receiving these funds and will be implementing and maintaining this project; and

**WHEREAS,** the Berrien County Board of Commissioners is in support of this project; and

**WHEREAS,** Berrien County, through additional grants, will provide funds necessary to carry out the project, including engineering for design, permit fees, administration costs and matching funds equal to at least 39% match percentage of the construction costs and cost overruns; and

**WHEREAS,** the project construction cost is estimated to be \$2.3 million, and the request to the Transportation Alternatives Program will be \$1.4 million with the remaining 39% match provided through the following funding sources:

- \$600,000 SPARK Grant
- \$300,000 DNR MNRTF Trust Fund Grant

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator, Brian Dissette, or his designee to act as agent on behalf of the County to request Transportation Alternatives Program funding, to act as the applicant's agent during project development and to sign a project agreement upon receipt of a funding award.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Berrien County commits to owning and operating the facilities constructed with Transportation Alternatives Program funds provided, however, that the County will not accept or expend any project grant funds until an acceptable facilities maintenance program has been developed and implemented by community partners.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Curran, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
David A. Vollrath, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
James R. Martin

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Wuerfel

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM	
Admin. _____	Date 10-18-22
Chairman _____	
Commissioner _____	

# Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements

This calculator will estimate the reduction in emissions resulting from improvements to bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and associated mode shift from passenger vehicles to bicycling or walking, including but not limited to sidewalks, dedicated bicycle infrastructure, improved wayfinding, mid-block crossing installations, bike share systems, and bike parking improvements.

## INPUT

(1) What is your project evaluation year?

(2) Estimate the shift in daily motorized passenger vehicle trips to non-motorized travel due to the bicycle and pedestrian project.

Daily Passenger Vehicle Trips		
Before	After	Change
7282	7082	200

(3a) Select the data type used for entering the typical one-way trip distance of passenger vehicles below:

Trip Distance Source
Average

(3b) If you selected "Average" above, enter the typical one-way trip distance. If you selected "Distribution" above, enter the typical distribution of one-way trip distances.

Typical Trip Distance (miles one way)	Distribution of Trip Distances (daily fraction per mileage bin)					Sum
2	x < 1	1 ≤ x < 2	2 ≤ x < 3	3 ≤ x < 4	4 ≤ x ≤ 5	

## OUTPUT

### EMISSION REDUCTIONS

	Pollutant	Total	*Units in kg/day unless otherwise noted
	Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1.281	
	Particulate Matter ≤2.5 µm (PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	0.004	
	Particulate Matter ≤10 µm (PM <sub>10</sub> )	0.018	
	Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)	0.064	
	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	0.047	
	Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	144.886	
	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO <sub>2</sub> e)	145.636	
	Total Energy Consumption (MMBTU/day)	1.957	

**Project Emissions Forms**  
**FHWA Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Toolkit**  
**Additional Information**

**Include maps detailing the location of the proposed path.**

See attached.

**Detail the land uses that surround the path.**

Several land uses are present along the trail. Many residential areas are along Benson Road, Enterprise Way and Higman Park Road. 2020 Census summary information identifies 663 households within a 2.28 square mile area of the trail. There is a 104 unit mobile home park between Benson Rd and Enterprise Way. Additionally, several commercial and business facilities exist along the trail corridor.

The trail will connect to existing trails that travel to the City of Benton Harbor's trail network, connecting additional retail and restaurant establishments. The trail will provide excellent connectivity to the multitude of local recreation opportunities along Lake Michigan, the Paw Paw River, and Jean Klock Park.

**Explain how the path provides access to jobs, services, and centers of trade.**

The trail is along a high use corridor that can be utilized by employees at multiple surrounding businesses, tourists seeking recreational entertainment in the area, homeowners and other local users seeking a way to get from point A to B without a car.

The path connects residences within a 1-2 mile range to businesses who sustain significant employment in the area. Example businesses include:

- Whirlpool Global Headquarters
- Whirlpool Paw Paw River Tech Center
- Whirlpool Global Consumer Design
- Whirlpool Creative Studios
- Whirlpool Corporation Edgewater Tech Center
- Whirlpool Force Failure Lab
- Whirlpool St. Joseph Tech Center
- Edgewater Automation
- First American Title
- Anderson Building Materials
- North Shore Inn
- North Pier Brewing Company
- Aludyne
- Wave/Worthington Industries

It is worth noting that the area supports a significant tourist population during the spring/summer. Congestion at beaches is frequent and emissions from cars can increase as they circle parking lots in an

attempt to find an open space. Providing a way for local users to travel to the beach without a car can reduce overall congestion and emissions.

**List all connections to other non-motorized paths, if applicable**

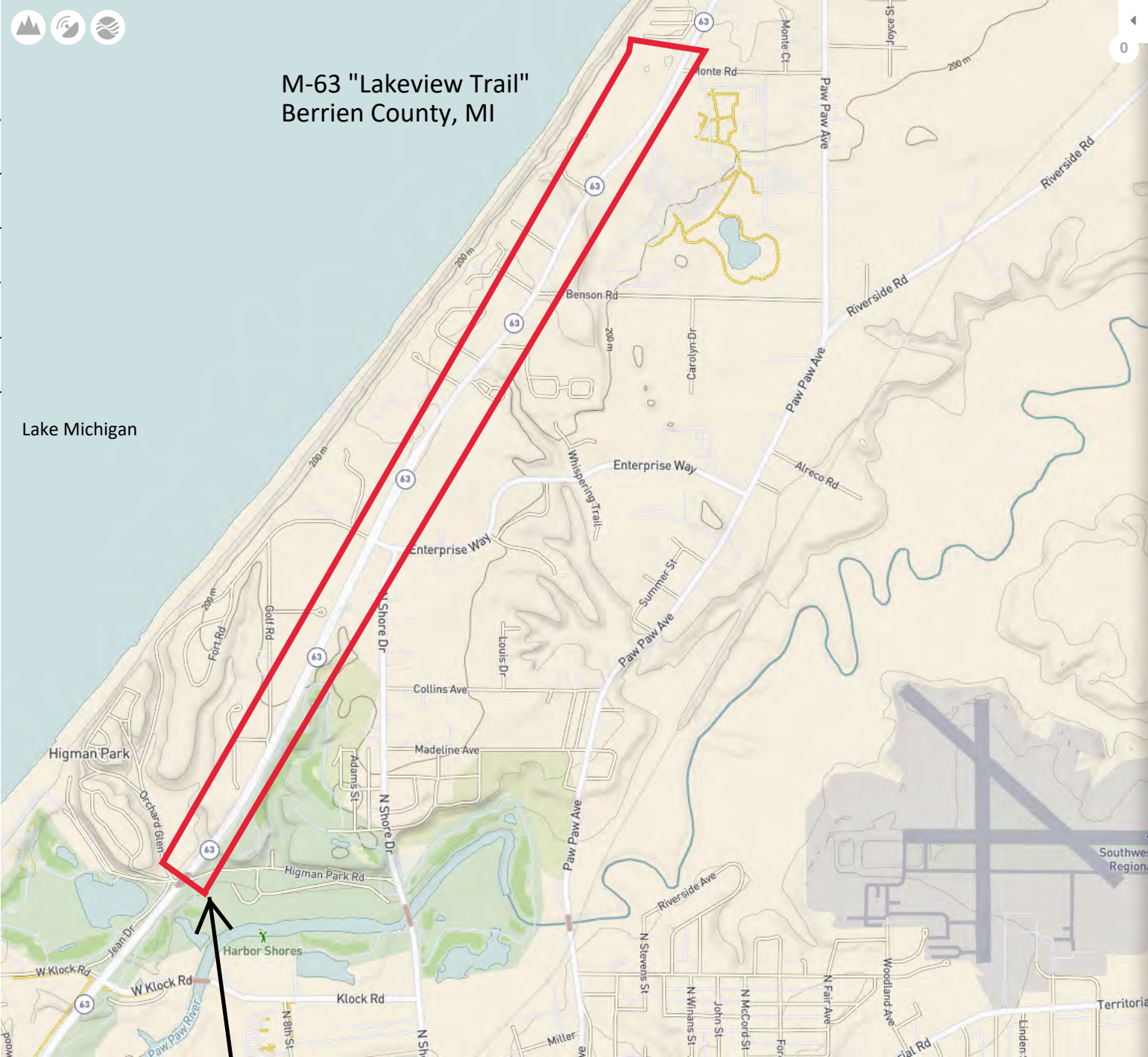
The Lakeview Trail segment connects many existing smaller trail segments in St. Joseph, Benton Township and City of Benton Harbor, filling in gaps that currently exist. It connects with Bicycle Route 35, providing connectivity to hundreds of miles of non-motorized trailways, including the existing trail networks to the north in Van Buren County, the City of South Haven and the Kal-Haven Trail to Kalamazoo. (See connectivity maps in attachments).

The Lakeview Trail segment is incorporated into multiple trail plans, as well as supported by Master and Recreation Plans throughout Berrien County. This M-63 segment is in the MDOT Southwest Michigan Region Nonmotorized Transportation Plan 2020, as a priority north-south corridor to implement.

It is also part of the Berrien County Master Trail Plan and Benton Charter Township 2019 Master Plan - Transportation Plan.



M-63 "Lakeview Trail"  
Berrien County, MI



Project Location





# Community Trail Plan

## Benton Harbor, Benton Township, & St. Joseph

City Limits

Whirlpool Campuses

Global Headquarters

Riverview Campus

St. Joseph Tech Center

Multimedia Comm. Center

Benton Harbor Tech Center

Paw Paw River Tech Center

Proposed

Trailhead Completed

Crossing Completed

Proposed Trail

Phase

2

3B

3C

3D

4

Proposed Offroad Trail

Phase

1C

3A

Benton Township Future Trails

St. Joseph Future Trails

Other Future Trails

Gravel Paths to be Paved

Mountain Bike Trail - Phase 1A Experience

Connector Completed

Flow Trail Completed

Gateway Completed

Intermediate E

Intermediate W

Optional

Parcel Acquisitions

Parcel Acquisition Options

Existing

Existing Trail

Existing Cart Path/ Walking Path

Seasonal Cart Path for Pedestrians

Existing Bike Lanes

Existing Unpaved Paths

Railroads

0

0.15

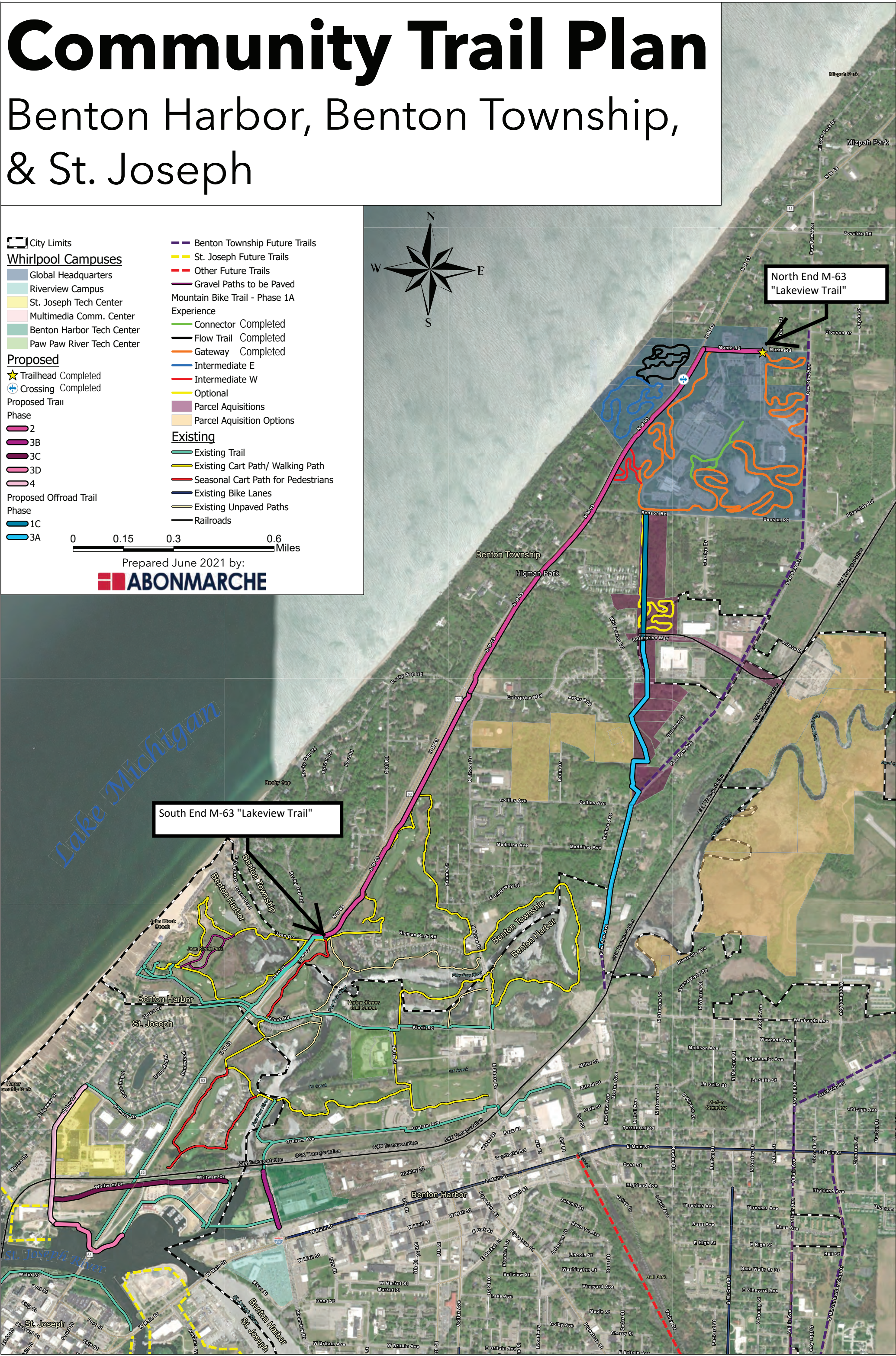
0.3

0.6

Miles

Prepared June 2021 by:

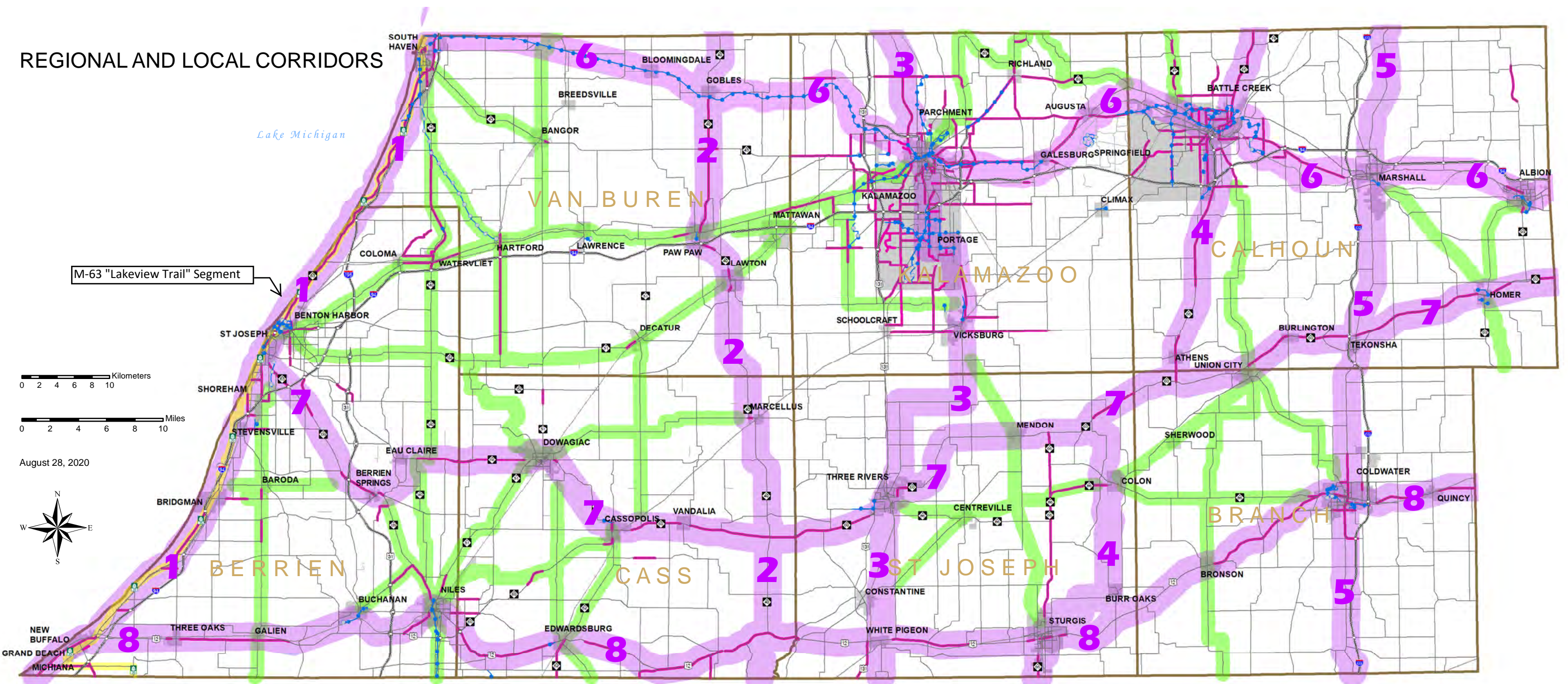
ABONMARCHE





# SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN REGION NONMOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2020

## REGIONAL AND LOCAL CORRIDORS



### PROPOSED REGIONAL NON-MOTORIZED NETWORK

- |                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> LAKESHORE/USBR 35      | <b>5</b> I-69/OLD US-27            |
| <b>2</b> M-40                   | <b>6</b> GREAT LAKE TO LAKE TRAILS |
| <b>3</b> KALAMAZOO/WHITE PIGEON | <b>7</b> M-60                      |
| <b>4</b> M-66/STURGIS           | <b>8</b> US-12                     |
| <b>PROPOSED LOCAL CORRIDORS</b> |                                    |

### EXISTING NON-MOTORIZED NETWORK

- IMPROVED SHARED USE PATH
- UNIMPROVED SHARED USE PATH
- >= 4FT SHOULDER OR BIKE LANE
- U.S. BICYCLE ROUTE 35

### BASE LAYERS

- MAIN ROAD
- LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAY
- RAILROAD
- CITY AND VILLAGE
- COUNTY



# US Bicycle Routes in Michigan

Nov. 20, 2014



## Route System

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials  
 American Cycling Association  
[www.aashtocycling.org/usa35](http://www.aashtocycling.org/usa35)



**Legend**

- US Bicycle Route on Road
- US Bicycle Route on Trail
- Ferry Service
- Freeway or Highway
- City or Village along Route
- Various City
- County
- State



Produced by:  
 Center for Shared Solutions and Technology Partnerships  
 Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget  
 06/28/12

M-63 "Lakeview Trail" Segment

# BERRIEN COUNTY BIKE MAP

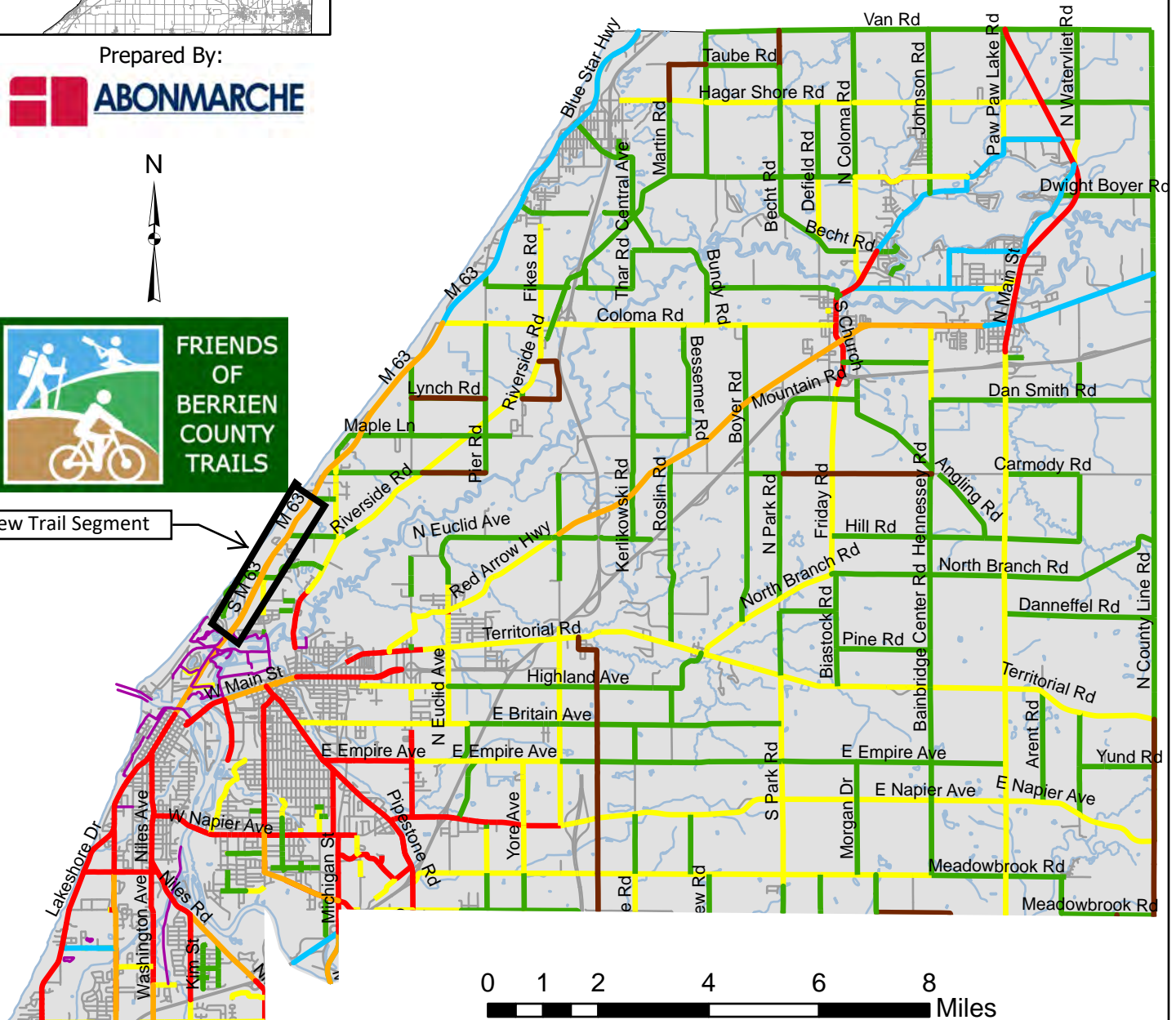
HAGAR, COLOMA, WATERVLIET,  
ST. JOSEPH, BENTON, AND BAINBRIDGE TOWNSHIPS

Prepared By:



FRIENDS  
OF  
BERRIEN  
COUNTY  
TRAILS

Lakeview Trail Segment



0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles  
1" = 15,000 FT

## Legend

- Non-Motorized Path
- Gravel Road
- Low Traffic Road (Less than 1,000 Cars Per Day)
- Moderate Traffic Road (1,000-5,000 Cars Per Day) With 3'+ Paved Shoulder
- Moderate Traffic Road (1,000-5,000 Cars Per Day) Without 3'+ Paved Shoulder
- High Traffic Road (Over 5,000 Cars Per Day) With 4'+ Paved Shoulder
- High Traffic Road (Over 5,000 Cars Per Day) Without 4'+ Paved Shoulder