

Summary of Preliminary Plan Feedback

The public engagement process for the Preliminary Plan, conducted throughout the winter months of 2024-2025, aimed to gather community perspectives on the proposed plan. Community outreach included various media platforms, including email groups, flyer's, posters, TV ads, and a public open house. The Preliminary Plan was made available on the project website, providing residents with the opportunity to review and submit feedback online. Additionally, a public open house at the Maybelle Burnette Library offered a space for in-person engagement and discussion. The following pages summarize the feedback received on the Preliminary Plan.



Help us create a more walkable, bike-friendly, and accessible Warren!



Open House Event December 11th at the

Online Feedback Available starting December 12th

4 Key Elements of the Plan Feedback

Like / Want to See More Of:

- Amenities such as water fountains, air pumps for bikes, benches, bus stop shelters, and safer street lighting.
- **Prioritize snow removal and complete streets** for safe walking and biking.
- Urgency in developing **ITC Trail** and River Walk for community use, especially for kids.
- ADA-compliant crosswalks

Dislike / Concerns:

- **Safety Concerns:** There are concerns about the safe use of battery-powered bicycles and scooters, particularly with young riders. Mid-block crossings at night are also a safety risk, as pedestrians are harder to see. Personal safety concerns near Van Dyke and 12 Mile due to theft.
- Concerns with Bike Facilities: Bike routes on busy roads like Van Dyke are considered dangerous due to high speeds. There is skepticism about bike lanes, with complaints about poor signage and accidents. Some feel bike lanes are underused and a waste of money, especially with Michigan's short biking season. Priority should be given to fixing roads and sewer lines. There are also concerns about streets deteriorating quickly and high sidewalk repair fees.
- **Maintenance and Upkeep:** Tree roots are damaging concrete, and there is a suggestion to plant shrubs where shade isn't needed.

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN?



7% UNSURE

4 Key Elements of the Plan

The preliminary plan provides a quick snapshot of where we are headed. Based on public input and analysis the plan is set to focus on the following key areas:



Address Critical Sidewalk Gaps Perform Basic Maintenance Install Benches and Trash Receptacles Implement Street Tree Infill Program Develop Complete Maintenance Regiment Including Snow Removal Upgrade and Widen Facilities Add Pedestrian Lighting Ensure ADA Compliant Intersections Incorporate Green Infrastructure



NEAD Implement Demonstration Projects (Paint and Post Projects) Address Critical Mid-block Crossing Evaluate Demonstration Projects Next Priority Mid-block Crossings Add Bus Shelters Make Demonstration Projects Permanent Complete Mid-Block Crossings



Establish a support system

to ensure progress and accountability

Incorporate Proposed Improvements Into Upcoming Projects Apply for Grants Educate the Public About New Facilities Pair Education with Enforcement Create an ADA Transition Plan Develop Safe Routes to Schools Update Planning Documents Implement Bike and Pedestrian Count Program

Van Dyke Corridor Plan Improvements Develop the River Walk Nature Trail and Sledding Hill near Bates Park

Install Bike Parking in Public Spaces

Sign Local Bike Routes Implement on Half-Mile Road



Connectivity Framework

Build an inclusive network

for all ages and abilities to key destinations Install Town Center Bike Facilities Build the TIC Trail Expand the River Walk Private Developments Launch Bike Share Program Prote Pedestrian-Focused Development Create Bike Hubs Enhance Lindhing and Esfety

Enhance Lighting and Safety Incorporate Community Art Develop Interpretive Systems

Iron Belle Trail Feedback

Like / Want to See More Of:

• Positive feedback on utilizing the power line corridor for biking, as it avoids private property and car traffic. Some are enthusiastic about completing the Iron Belle Trail connection in Warren through this corridor, viewing it as an excellent use of underutilized land. Support is also expressed for creating pleasant public spaces along the corridor.

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE IRON BELLE TRAIL RECOMMENDATIONS?



- **Consideration of extending crosswalks and paths**, such as on Common west of Lorraine, to better connect to city destinations and add fully separated bike lanes on half-mile roads to enhance safety.
- Support for curbs separating bike and car lanes, but with a note to ensure reliable snow removal in winter.
- Interest in connecting local trails with Detroit's trail system and extending walking/running paths for a circular route in Warren.

Dislike / Concerns:

- **Bike Lanes:** Van Dyke is considered too busy for bike lanes, with complaints of accidents and improper lane usage, and concerns about taking away car lanes for bike lanes in a car-centric city like Warren, where bike lanes are perceived as rarely used.
- **Concerns about Parking:** Concerns that creating bike lanes may eliminate on-street parking in certain areas.
- **Opposition to Prioritizing Bike Paths:** Concerns about prioritizing bike paths over fixing infrastructure issues like sewer lines and deteriorating roads, with a request to focus on essential city repairs first.



REGIONAL CONNECTION

The planned Iron Belle Trail **spans the State of Michigan**, connecting Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood at the western tip of the Upper Peninsula. The City of Warren provides a key connection for the bike route through Southeast Michigan.

Planned Route Would Include:



Separated bike lanes and safety Improvements specified in the Iron Belle Route and Feasibility Study and the Van Dyke Corridor Plan.



Buffered bike lanes on Martin, Lorraine, and Common specified in the Iron Belle Plan.



Multi-use Trail along the Utility Corridor would provide a park-like setting teaturing landscaping, benches, lighting, art installations, community gathering spaces, and emergency call boxes, creating a welcoming and safe environment for all users. If desired, the trail could be extended further south following power line corridor between 14 Mille Road and 10 Mile Road.

9 Mile Road Feedback

Like / Want to See More Of:

- Excitement for a road diet and cycle track on 9 Mile, with a desire for immediate implementation.
- Add playgrounds along 9 Mile, similar to what was done along 9 Mile in Oak Park.
- Enthusiasm for more roads being redesigned with similar setups.
- Support for expanding the plan to neighboring areas like Hazel Park and Eastpointe, and making 9 Mile a major bicycle corridor from Southfield to Jefferson

Dislike / Concerns:

- Traffic Flow Concerns: Concerns that bike lanes would impede traffic and hurt businesses.
- **Bike Lanes:** Opposition to bike lanes, with a belief that infrastructure issues like sewer lines should be prioritized. Also, concerns that the road diet is unnecessary due to low usage of bike lanes, as the density and trip distances don't justify the change.
- Low Priority: Some believe that 9 Mile recommendations should be a lower priority, as they don't see themselves using the 9 Mile corridor often enough to offer useful input. Preference for repaving the road and addressing potholes instead of adding bike lanes.

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE 9 MILE ROAD RECOMMENDATIONS?





regional connection 9 Mile Road

The Nine Mile corridor has been identified as a **key regional corridor for bicycle and pedestrian travel** by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, with plans to transform its streetscape across communities in Macomb and Oakland counties.

Planned Route Would Include:



A consistent three-lane cross-section to improve traffic safety:

A two-way cycle track separated from the roadway with lighting

Landscaping and rain gardens between the cycle track and roadway

Mid-block crossing islands

Bus pull-off bays with transit shelters
On-street parking in strategic locations where space allows



Where space is limited, the two-way cycle track will be separated from the motor vehicle traffic by a raised divider.

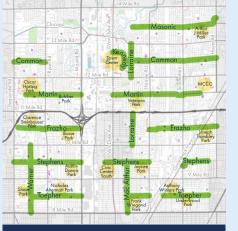
Near-term Option:



Transforming Nine Mile into a regional bicycle and pedestrian corridor could take some time. In the near-term, Stephens Road could be used as a temporary cross-town connection with basic signage, povement markings, and crosswalk upgrades. See Half-Mile Roads recommendations for more details on how Stephens Road could be updated.

Half-Mile Roads Feedback

Opinions on half-mile road options were mixed. Option A, with shared roadways and traffic calming, was seen as less safe due to the lack of dedicated bike lanes. Option B, with on-street bike lanes, was favored but raised concerns about losing parking and safety risks with cars. Option C, a two-way cycle track on one side, was favored. Many felt it was the safest option, offering a good balance of biking, driving, and parking, though concerns about parking loss and needing more barriers were noted.



LOCAL NETWORK **Half-Mile Roads**

The half-mile roads provide low-stress alternatives to busy major roads, making them ideal for a bikeway network in Warren. They connect neighborhoods to schools, parks, and recreation areas. This plan explores three options to upgrade the half-mile roads and improve bicycle and pedestrian travel-and we **need** your input!

OVERCOMING BARRIERS

Connecting the Gaps along the Half-Mile Roads



The orange areas on the map highlight challenging zones for pedestrian and bicycle travel. Barriers such as the river, freeways, and industrial areas create obstacles and disconnections along the half-mile roads. These connections will only be effective if pathways are provided along major roads that pass through these barriers to help overcome these challenges.

OPTION A

Shared Roadway with Traffic Calming





HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH OPTION A?

- Concerns about safety and drivers ignoring stop signs.
- Support for traffic calming, like mini buttons, to slow traffic.

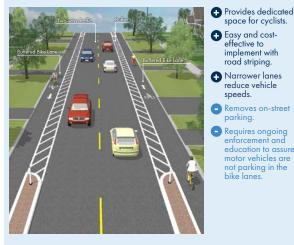
enough separation

conflicts between

- Some feel shared roads aren't safe for bikers and prefer separated lanes.
- Worries about maintenance costs and snow plowing challenges.
- Some think shared roads may work on less busy streets, but most want protected bike lanes.

OPTION B

Designated On-street Bike Lanes



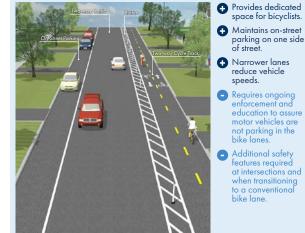
Would like to to see this on Stephen's Road, Martin Road, Lorraine Road, Common Road, Kennedy Square, Chicago Road



HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH OPTION B?

- Stronger approval for this option over Option A, but still concerns about parking and safety.
- Preference for fully separated bike lanes for safety, with a suggestion to include bike lanes on all halfmile roads along with sidewalks.
- Concerns about removing onstreet parking and driveway space
- Some feel bike lanes are unsafe or confusing, and collisions with parked cars or driveway exits are a risk
- Support for bike lanes if enforced and separated, with bollards for protection.

OPTION C Two-way Cycle Track on One Side of Street



Would like to to see this on Common Road, Lorraine Road, Kennedy Square, Chicago Road



HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH OPTION C? Stronger approval for this option over Option A, but some feel the idea isn't necessary or needed in the area.

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- This option is favored by those who like the idea of keeping cyclists together on one side, but some are concerned about parking loss and its impact.
- Preference for more separation (e.g., bollards) for safety.
- Support for dedicated bike lanes, with concerns about needing help to widen driveways or create additional parking.
- Some find this option confusing or risky, but others believe it's the safest and most balanced, as it accommodates biking, driving, and parking.

River Walk Feedback

Like / Want to See More Of:

- Nature Trail Appeal: Support for the idea of a nature trail along Red Run, with excitement about the potential for the area to be beautiful if planned correctly.
- Connection to Key Areas: Enthusiasm for connections to key local areas, such as Halmich Park, Downtown Old Warren, Van Dyke corridor, and the Lorraine area, as well as the Iron Belle Trail.

• **Biking Trail for Safety:** Desire for a biking trail to reduce collisions with pedestrians, if bikes are allowed on the nature trail.

- **River Walk and Bates Park Proposal:** Positive feedback for the River Walk proposal, particularly due to the potential for utilizing unused land, and appreciation for the Bates Park proposal.
- **Resident Support:** Some residents, particularly near Red Run, are open to the idea and willing to champion the project.

Dislike / Concerns:

- **Privacy and Property Issues:** Concerns from homeowners near the proposed trail who fear losing privacy and the safety of their property, especially with increased traffic, potential disruptions to wildlife, and public access to their yards. Concerns about private property rights and the potential for legal challenges related to the trail's construction.
- **Maintenance and Security:** Questions about the city's ability to maintain the trail and ensure safety, with concerns about whether the city will provide adequate cleaning and police patrols.
- Environmental Impact: Worries about disrupting wildlife habitats and the river's potential to affect the trail during high water levels.
- Low Priority: Some believe the trail is not a priority compared to other projects, questioning its value and return on investment.

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE RIVER WALK RECOMMENDATIONS?





LOCAL NETWORK River Walk

Warren's proposed River Walk would offer a **soft surface trail designed to provide a peaceful, natural corridor along the Red Run.** While the vision for this trail has been in place for some time, significant challenges, such as securing property easements, stand in the way of making it a reality. The trail would connect key parks and recreation areas, offering a safe, scenic route with a focus on sustainability. Despite the obstacles, the project aims to enhance access to natural spaces and provide a tranquil escape for residents.

Planned Route Would Include:



Soft surface nature trails that offer a scenic route along the Red Run. Key amenifies could include rest areas with benches and picnic tables, trash receptacles, wayfinding and interpretive signage, and landscaping to enhance the natural beauty of the area.



Proposed nature trails and sledding hill near Bates Po

Sidewalk Gaps Feedback

Priority Gaps:

- Chicago
- Macomb Community College
- Halmich Park Area
- Community Center
- **Others** Hoover north of Masonic, Hayes Road, Mound, 12 Mile Road along Tech Center, Ryan Between 11 Mile and Martin, fix all of them!

Additional Comments:

- **Sidewalk Maintenance:** There are widespread sidewalk issues, and the city should already have a plan in place for addressing them, rather than relying on residents to prioritize.
- **Prioritizing Areas:** While there are important gaps marked on the map, Mound should be given lower priority as it is already difficult for pedestrians. More frequent areas like those near schools, libraries, parks, and mile roads should be prioritized.
- **River Trail Benefit:** If the River Trail is prioritized, it will help address sidewalk gaps in the northwest part of the city between the Community Center and Halmich Park.
- Halmich Park: The sidewalk around Halmich Park needs resurfacing.
- Fix Existing Sidewalks First: Emphasis on fixing existing sidewalks before adding new projects.



safety improvements Sidewalk Gaps

Warren has a robust sidewalk network, but there are **a few key gaps**—particularly along the Mile Roads—that need attention. This map highlights critical areas where sidewalk connections are missing along major roads. These gaps should be addressed to improve pedestrian safety, accessibility, and transit access.

Sidewalk Gaps along Major Roads
Critical Gaps to Complete First

SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE

Ensuring Accessibility for All



Maintaining Warren's sidewalk network is key to keeping it safe and easy to use. Regular upkeep helps prevent hazards, makes walking easier, and ensures that everyone – no matter their ability– can get around the city. A first step in this process is creating an ADA Transition Plan to enhance accessibility and ensure that people with mobility challenges can easily navigate around the city.

Crosswalks & Intersections Feedback

Priority Crosswalk Locations:

- Van Dyke At all crosswalks south of Center Line, at Martin, and at Chicago
- 13 Mile at Hoover, Lorrain, and Schoenherr
- Chicago at VanDyke at 13 Mile and at VanDyke
- **10 Mile -** at Cunningham, at Curie and at Firwood
- 12 Mile between VanDyke and Lorraine

Additional Comments:

- Ryan Road at 8 1/2 Mile and 11 1/2 Mile
- 9 Mile Road
- Masonic and Schoenherr
- Access to Schools, Parks and SMART Bus Routes
- Half-Mile Roads by the power lines
- Crossing Islands
- **ADA Compliance:** Emphasis on the need for ADA-compliant crosswalks and detectable warning signs when new crosswalks are built. Additionally, align detectable warnings at street crosswalks.
- **Pedestrain Crossing Features:** Support for curb extensions and crossing islands, but skepticism about the effectiveness of hybrid pedestrian beacons and rapid flash beacons. Opposition to the Hybrid Beacon due to confusion and safety risks, preferring better crosswalk visibility.
- **Infrastructure Priorities:** Concerns about infrastructure issues like sewer lines and roads taking priority over bike paths or crosswalks, as well as people no longer crossing at traffic lights.
- Impact to Major Roads: Concerns about adding traffic lights or features like islands that may block lanes on major roads
- **Residential Speed Hump Program:** Suggestion for a residential speed hump program, similar to Detroit's, to slow traffic in neighborhoods.



SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS Crosswalks & Intersections

Existing Signalized Intersections: Upgrade and improve intersections to enhance pedestrian safety and accessibility

New Midblock Crosswalk Locations: New crosswalks to support the priority network, address pedestrian demand, and provide accessibility to bus stops

Examples:





Crossing Islands provide a safe refuge for pedestrians, allowing them to cross busy roads in stages. Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons use flashing lights to warr drivers of pedestrians crossing, enhancing safety at unsignalized



Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons alert drivers to stop for pedestrians, improving safety at crossings withou traditional traffic signals. Signalized Intersection Enhancements improve pedestrian safety by adding features like countdown signals, and leading pedestrian intervals.





Bicycle Signals and Conflict Zone Markings increase bike lane visibility and reduce collision risks at intersections.

Crosswalk Visibility Enhancements, including lighting, in-street signage, and curb extensions, increase driver awareness and reduce accidents.

Major Roads Feedback

Like / Want to See More Of:

- **Safety Improvements:** Speeding was a major concern, with participants requesting measures to slow traffic and prevent accidents. Suggestions included physical road changes and bike patrols for added security.
- Improved Connectivity: Support was voiced for bus stop improvements and the addition of bike and scooter options throughout the city.
- Long-Term Maintenance: Respondents requested a plan to maintain the new infrastructure over time.
- **Education:** Concerns were raised about confusion with new traffic signals and bike facilities, with calls for educational efforts to help drivers understand them
- 8 Mile: A request was made for more focus on improving commercial areas along 8 Mile.

Dislike / Concerns:

- **Traffic Flow Concerns:** Some worried that reallocating road space for active mobility could cause traffic congestion and delays.
- **Multi-Modal Hub Features:** Some felt the inclusion of features like bike share programs and selfdriving car discussions were unnecessary.
- Low Priority: Several respondents argued that fixing existing infrastructure, such as roads and sewer lines, should take priority over bike lanes and active mobility features.

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE MAJOR ROAD RECOMMENDATIONS?





FUTURE CROSS SECTIONS Major Roads

What Will the Future Look Like?

The proposed cross sections demonstrate how the major roads can be redesigned during future road reconstruction projects to accommodate all users safely, with pathways separated from the road and enhanced crossings to make travel through Warren easier and safer for everyone.



Traffic Safety Enhancements: Improve safety with enhanced visibility at crosswalks by pulling back stop bars and installing speed tables at intersection driveways as well as equipping mibblock crossings with pedestrian islands and signalized beacons.



Separated Facilities and Micromobility: Prioritize vulnerable users by providing pathways separated from which et haffer. Accommodate micromobility options, such as e-bikes and scooters, with dedicated spaces to ensure safety and accessibility.



Multimodal Hubs: Embrace the future of transportation by integrating features like bus stops, EV chargers, and bike share stations to support diverse options, including autonomous vehicles and micromobility.



Enhanced Amenities: Incorporate benches, landscaping, shade, public art, and rain gardens to enhance comfort, accessibility, and environmental sustainability.

Core Network Feedback

Top Priorities:

- Separated and Designated Bike Lanes -Creating safe, dedicated bike lanes throughout the city away from car traffic for safety.
- Half-Mile and Local Road Bike Routes -Expanding local bike routes and ensuring access throughout the community.

• **Power Line Corridor** - Developing a trail along the power line corridor.

- **Chicago Road** Providing connectivity between key destinations such as the Community Center and Halmich Park.
- Town Center Areas Demonstration areas and connections within the Town Center for better access.
- Common Road Enhancing bike lanes and designated bikeways.
- **Others** Red Run, 9 Mile, Road Crossing Opportunities, Martin, Lighting, Macomb Community College to Civic Center, and Connecting the Civic Center to South Warren.

Additional Comments:

- Walkability and Bikability: Interest in developing the Town Center and creating other walkable nodes in the city, with support for complete streets to encourage walkability and bikeability.
- **Existing Sidewalks and Bike Lanes:** Some feel that existing sidewalks are sufficient for both walking and biking, especially in areas with low traffic, and argue that bike lanes are unnecessary.
- Power Line Corridor: Concerns about safety in the power line corridor.

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE CORE NETWORK RECOMMENDATIONS?





INITIAL FOCUS FOR DEVELOPMENT Core Network



The initial focus is to create an **all ages and abilities core network of bikeways.** This system will connect key regional routes, such as the Iron Belle Trail and the proposed

9 Mile Cycle Track, along with local destinations like schools, parks, and other community hubs. The network will be organized around half-mile segments to ensure accessibility and ease of use.

Planned Core Network Would Include:



Local Road Bike Routes: On-road bike routes following low-speed, neighborhood streets

Half-Mile Connections: A cost-effective opportunity to expand the core network by adding bikeways along Half-Mile Roads

Town Center Demonstration Area

Many of the existing roads in the Town Center area have excess capacity that could be repurposed for bicycle use. In addition, a concurrent study is exploring mixed-use development options that would be within easy walking and biking distance of many area residents.

