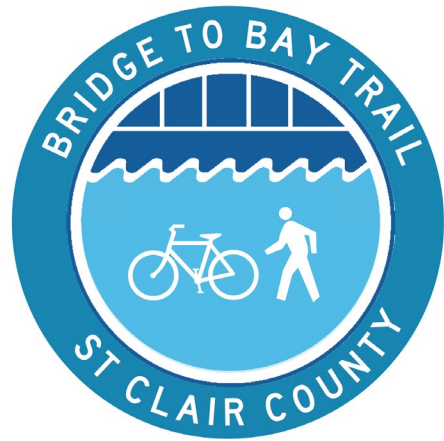


# Bridge to Bay Trail Identification, Wayfinding, and Safety Improvements

November 16, 2020

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

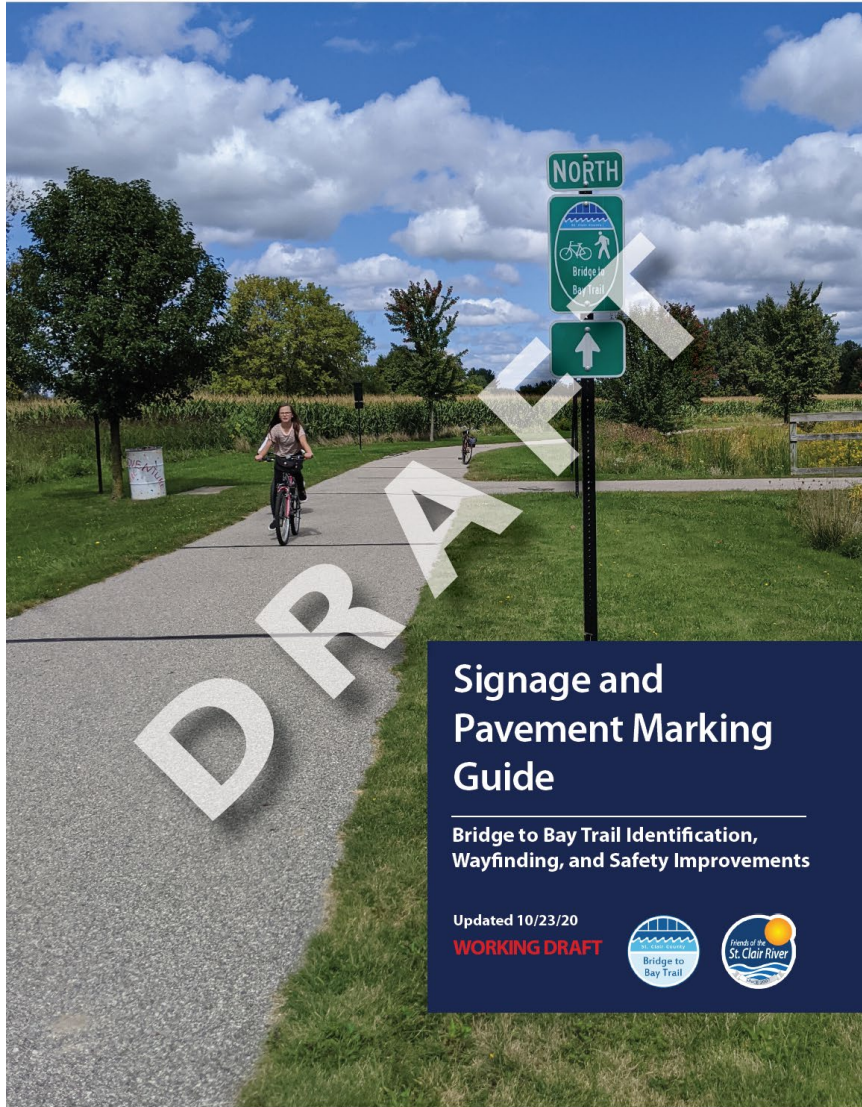


[WalkBike.Info/BridgeToBayTrail](http://WalkBike.Info/BridgeToBayTrail)

## Agenda

- Key Updates to Signage & Pavement Marking Guide
- Proposed Policies, Programs, and Metrics
- Community Recommendations Overview
- Signage and Pavement Marking Plan Approach
- Next Steps

# Signage and Pavement Marking Guide



- Many small tweaks over the past three weeks
- Three major changes:
  - Logo
  - Trail confidence markers
  - QR Codes
- Currently reviewing with MDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator and SEMCOG staff

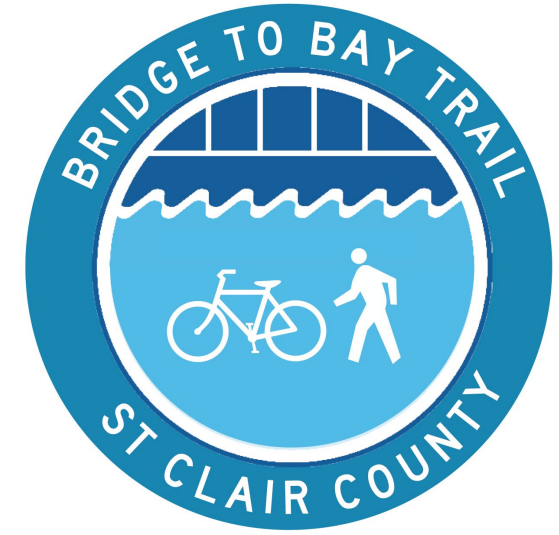
# Logo and Branding



Logo originally developed for bike route sign. Only permitted to use the top 1/3 of the oval

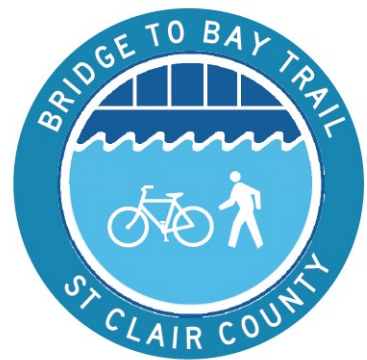


Quickly modified to a circle to match other county trail logos for a trail map. This design was never fully vetted



Proposed logo evolution based on the development of the sign branding

# Branding in Signs



Logo



Riverwalks Signs



Kiosk Signs



Destination Signs



Bike Route Signs

# Confidence Markers

## Confidence Marker Signs and Stickers



## Confidence Marker Stencils

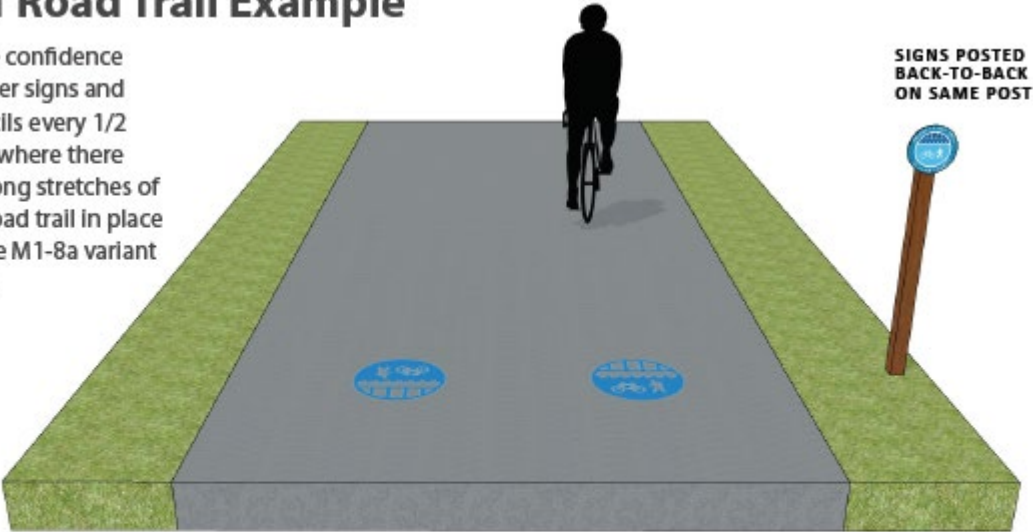
NOTE: OPTION TO REPLACE STENCIL WITH 12" DIA CONFIDENCE MARKER SIGNS APPLIED AS STICKERS TO THE PAVEMENT



# Confidence Markers

## Off Road Trail Example

Place confidence marker signs and stencils every 1/2 mile where there are long stretches of off-road trail in place of the M1-8a variant sign.



12-inch diameter sign with bicycle and pedestrian symbol



Optional: 24-inch diameter stencil or 12-inch sticker with bicycle and pedestrian symbol

## Riverwalk Example

Place confidence marker with pedestrian symbols at access points along the riverwalk.



18-inch diameter sign with pedestrian symbol

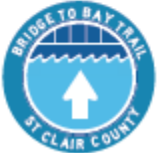
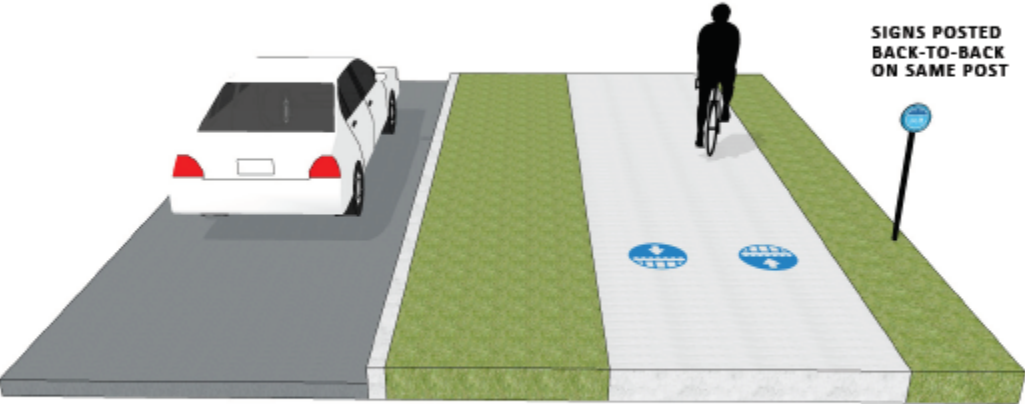


Optional: 24-inch diameter stencil or 12-inch sticker with pedestrian symbol

# Confidence Markers

## Sidepath Example (Special Circumstance)

This application may be used in special circumstances where the trail is not easily distinguishable from other route choices, such as in urban areas where the trail blends in with surrounding sidewalks and would cause unnecessary sign clutter. Otherwise, the M1-8a variant sign should be used for typical applications.



12-inch diameter sign with arrow



Optional: 24-inch diameter stencil or 12-inch sticker with arrow

## Sidewalk Example (Special Circumstance)

Use signs and stencils with pedestrian symbols on sidewalk routes.



12-inch diameter sign with arrow

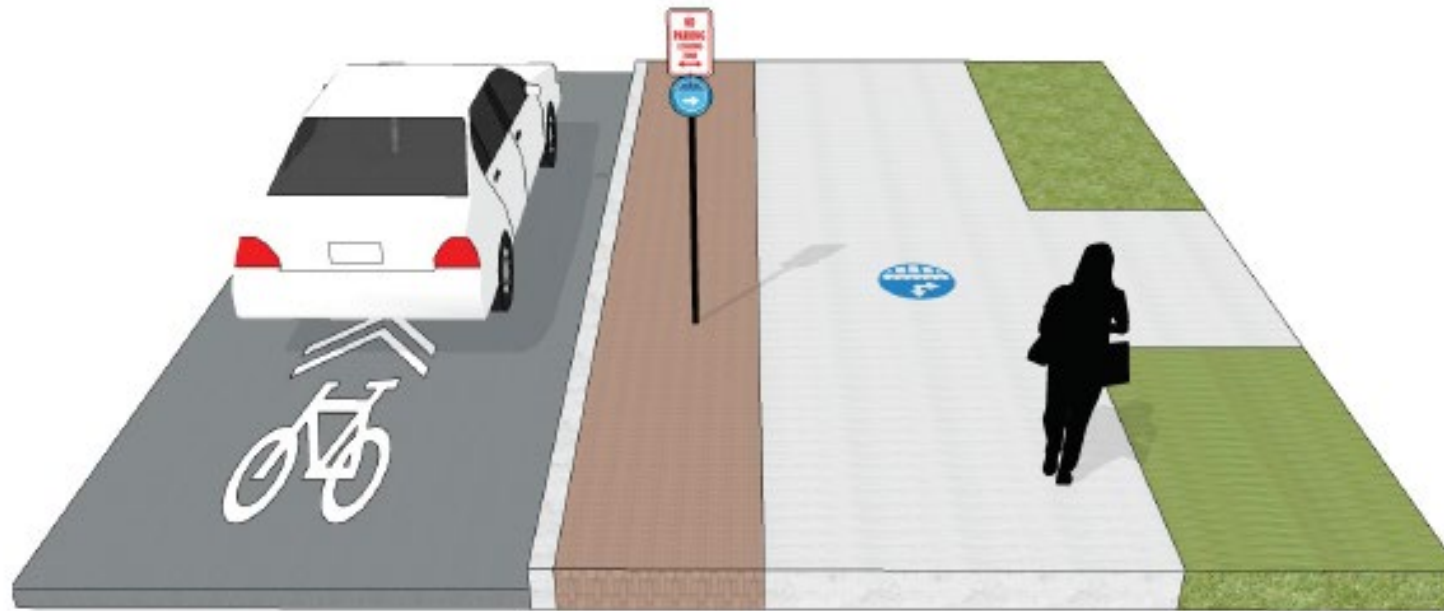


Optional: 24-inch diameter stencil or 12-inch sticker with pedestrian symbol

# Confidence Markers

## Sidepath/Sidewalk Changes in Direction Example (Special Circumstance)

Use signs and stencils to avoid sign clutter when guiding users through a number of short turns in an urban area.



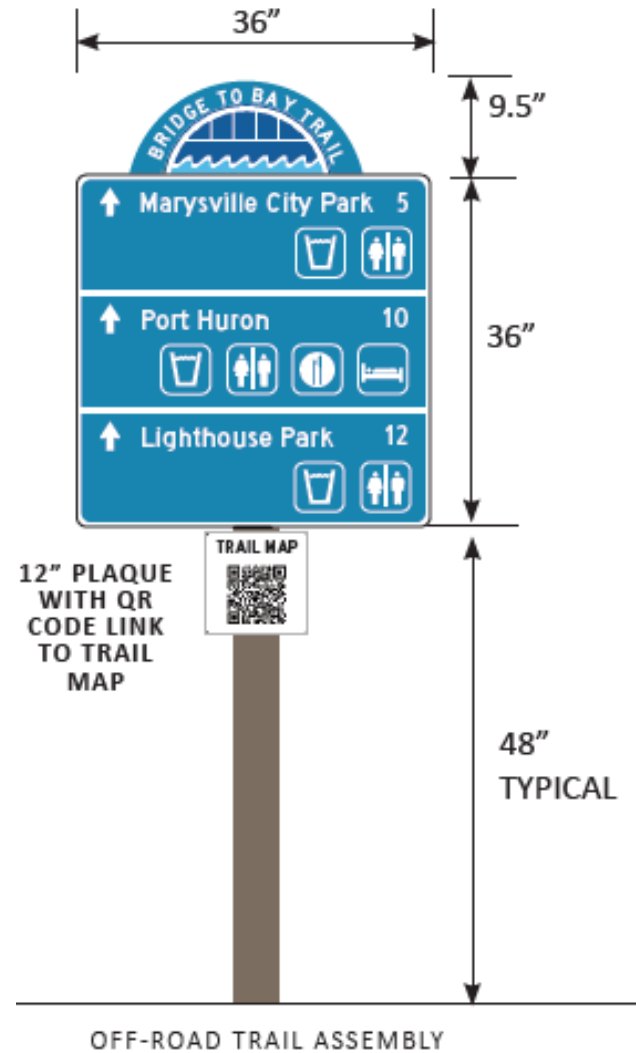
12-inch diameter  
sign with arrow



Optional: 24-inch  
diameter stencil or  
12-inch sticker with  
arrow

# QR Codes

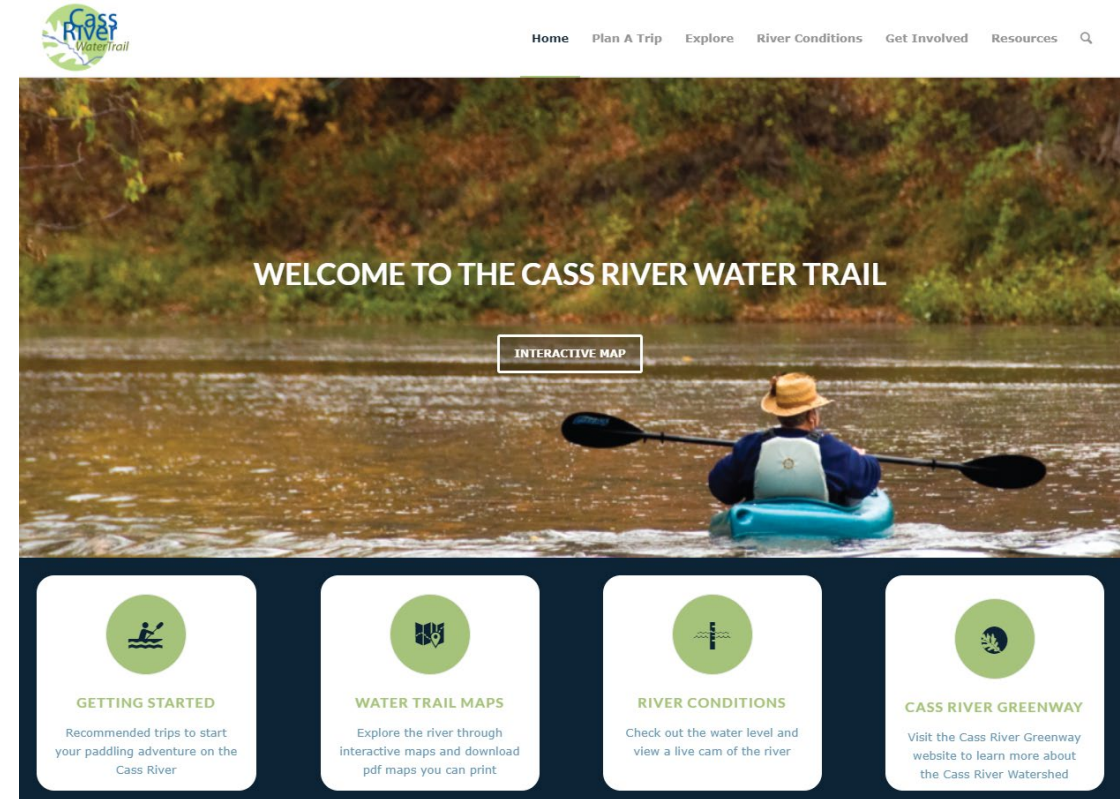
Provide a ground-to-web link for interactive and static maps



# Create Bridge to Bay Trail Website

Establish a trail specific website using the **BridgeToBayTrail.org** domain. The website will include information on the following:

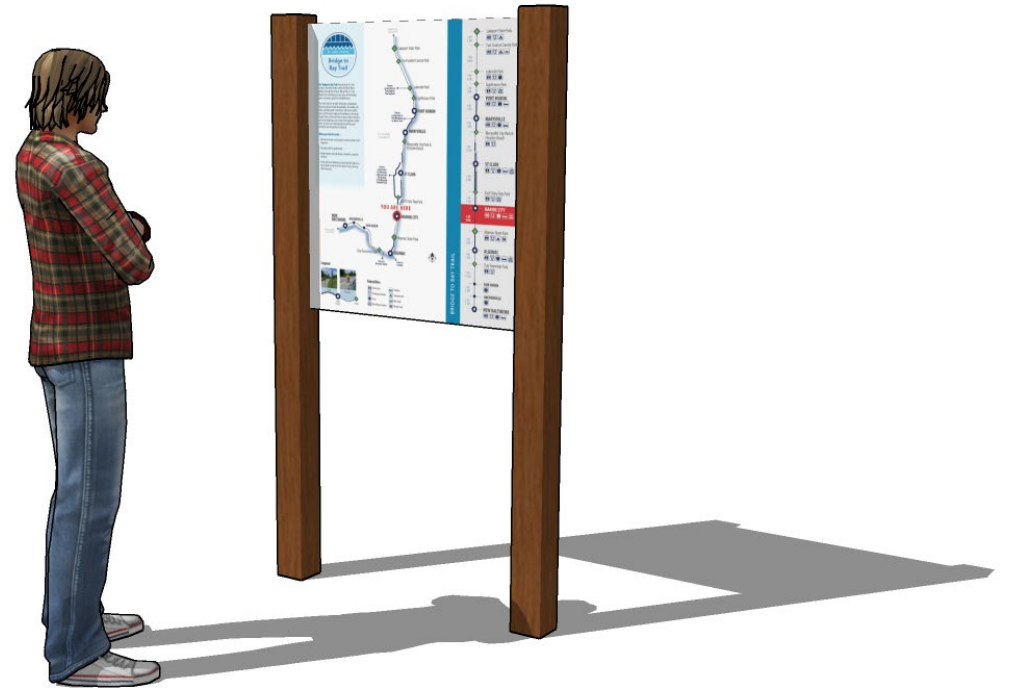
- Recommended trips
- Trail conditions, closures, and detours
- Communities and major parks
- Event information and registration
- Fitness routes and programs
- Printed and interactive trail maps
- Virtual tours and videos
- Links to related trail and tourism sites



# Single Point of Contact for the Public

Provide a single phone number, main email, and issue reporting tool that serves as the clearing house for all non-emergency trail related business including:

- Maintenance requests
- Trail condition reports
- Event planning
- Trail literature requests
- Press contact



# Manage Trail Publications

Create, regularly update, publish, and distribute trail publications

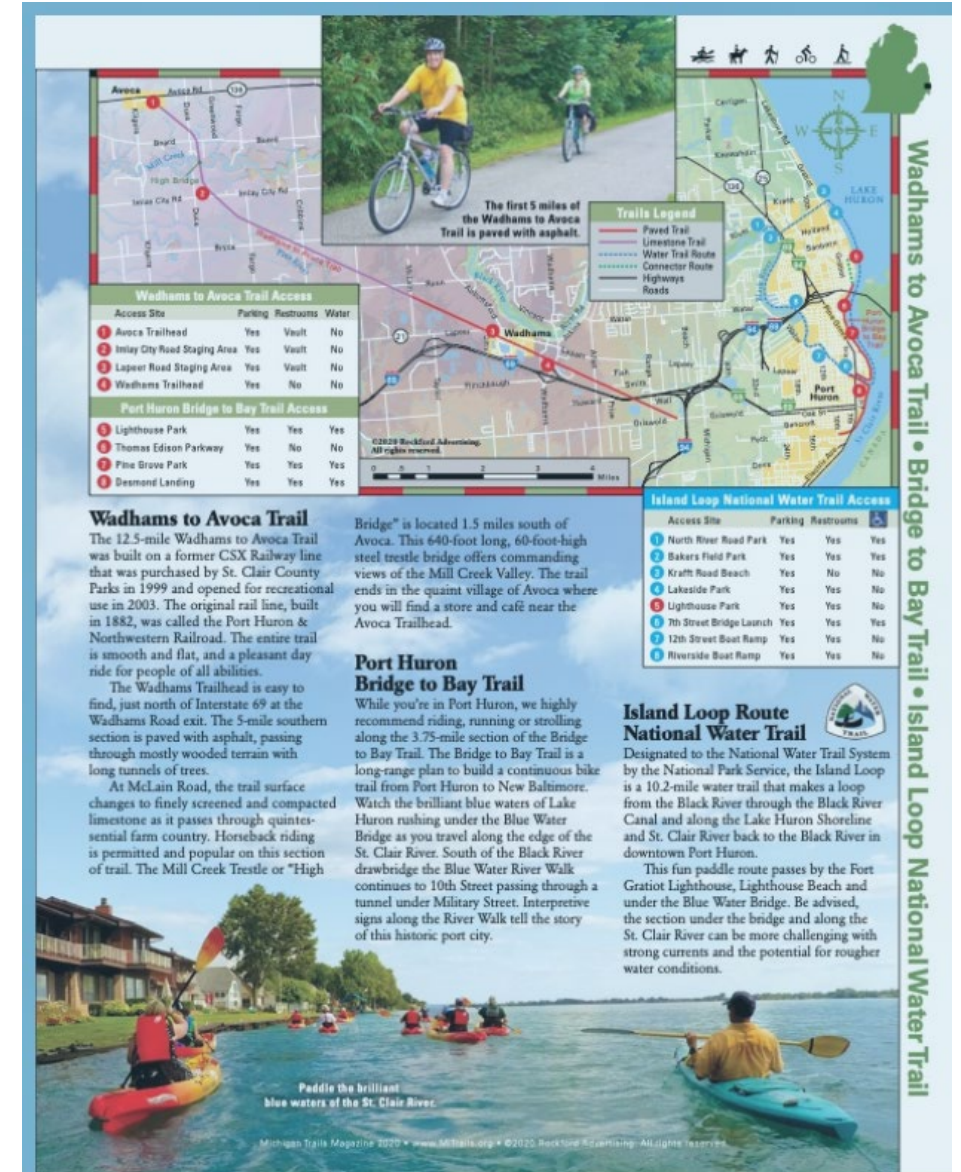
- Official overall trail map tailored to various sizes
- Downloadable PDF print-at-home maps for segments
- Consistent local attraction and route maps
- Trail brochures
- Keeper of official trail artwork
- Newsletters, press releases, fact sheets, etc.



# External Brand Management

Manage how the trail is presented in external publications and tourism sites including:

- Michigan Trails Magazine
- Michigan Trails and Greenways
- Southeast Michigan Council of Governments Trail Website
- Pure Michigan
- Discover the Blue
- St. Clair County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Local Tourism Sites
- League of Michigan Bicyclists Ride Calendar and Map



# Trailhead Management Support

Provide a consistent quality experience at the trailheads including

- Coordinate with local communities on installation and permitting of kiosks
- Establish a single contract for kiosk installation
- Assist in grant applications for additional trailhead amenities such as bike repair stands, benches, water fountains, restrooms, etc.
- Provide temporary restroom facilities and information on water sources when normal facilities are closed for the season
- Keep kiosks stocked with brochures and updated bulletins



# Permanent Trail Counters

Establish year-round trail counters to understand use patterns and determine impact of improvements

- Locate counters in the five trail towns
- Separate counts for pedestrians and bicyclists (may require separate counters)
- Near-term provide real-time count information on trail website
- Long-term provide life count information at count locations and/or kiosks
- Integrate count program with SEMCOG's pedestrian and bicycle count program



# Organize New Tours & Promote Existing Events & Routes

Establish events that highlight progress on the trail completion.

- Hold new segment grand opening tours and ribbon cutting
- Hold a yearly signature event on the approximately 40-mile route between Algonac State Park to Lakeport State Park offering single day one-way rides, two-day round-trip rides with overnight, and single day round-trip rides
- Promote existing tours and coordinate with tour operators on route choices and staging areas



# Establish Local Walking Fitness Programs

Establish walking and bike routes and support community wellness programs:

- Identify ½ mile, 1 mile, and 1 ½ mile walking routes in communities and parks
- Use pavement markings to mark distance on the routes
- Provide overview signage regarding the route with links to online information
- Provide info on the routes for fitness apps on the trail website
- Coordinate with local diabetes prevention classes and health care providers and provide materials



# Maintenance Program

Establish a monitoring and scheduled maintenance regime that includes the following:

- Yearly evaluation of surface, structures, and signs
- Seasonal evaluation of vegetation encroachments
- Long-term trail reconstruction program
- Yearly crack sealing program
- Periodic sealcoating program
- Yearly drainage structure cleaning
- Sign replacement program
- Snow removal
- Surface debris removal
- Vegetation trimming
- Mowing
- Project budgeting
- Management of joint effort contracts



# Trail Continuity Policies

Work with local communities to establish policies that guarantee that non-trail construction projects do not interrupt the operation of the trail:

- Commitment to keep the trail open without any temporary or permanent closures
- Policy to restore damaged or removed trail surface, signs, or amenities to as new condition
- Prioritize maintaining original trail route and minimize length of time of detours when necessary
- Provide appropriately signed and ADA accessible detours when original route can not be maintained during construction



# Bicycle / Trail Friendly Business Program

Establish a program that promotes businesses that welcome and support trail users:

- Provide bicycle parking
- Hotels that cater to trail users
- Provide water and emergency services



# Create a Support Network

Provide the necessary bicycle repair and emergency support systems:

- Bicycle repair vending machines when there is not a near-by bicycle shop
- Mobile repair for peak weekends
- Contact numbers for emergency repairs or rides



# Hire/Appoint Trail Manager / Executive Director / Staff

Establish a position that has the primary responsibility to coordinate and manage the trail development and operations including:

- Managing the Regional Trails Board & Local Trails Committees
- Manage website
- Manage single point of contact for public
- Managing consultants
- Fundraising
- Grant writing support
- Manage trail counter program
- Event planning
- Manage fitness programs
- Manage maintenance program

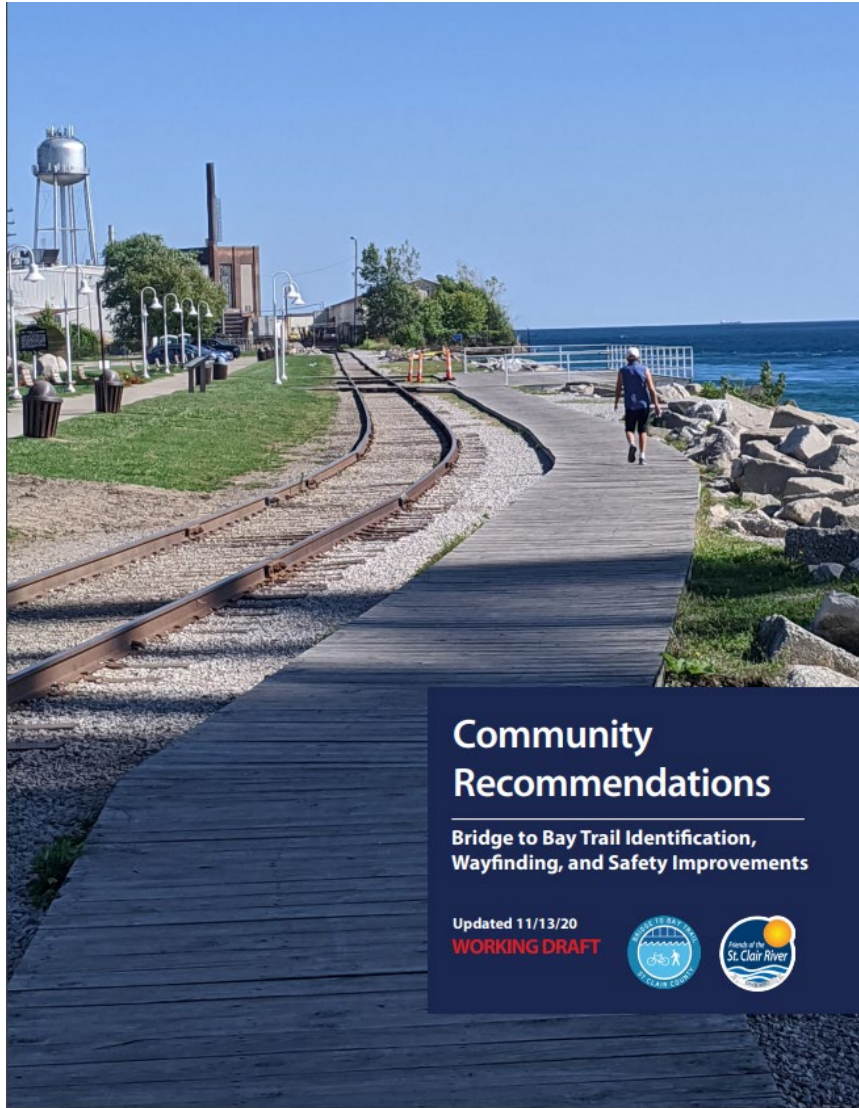
# Clearly Define Organizational and Financial Structure

Create a clear picture of roles and responsibilities of the key partners responsible for fundraising, management, and development of the Bridge to Bay Trail

- Consider remaining “Regional Trails Board” and clarify their role and authority
- Define the role of St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Trails Advisory Committee
- Strengthen the Bridge to Bay Trail Program within the Friends of the St. Clair River and/or set up an exploratory committee regarding an independent 501(c)(3)
- Establish a designated fund within the Community Foundation or Friends of the St. Clair River to support development



# Community Recommendations



- On [WalkBike.Info/BridgToBayTrail](https://WalkBike.Info/BridgToBayTrail)
- Working Document
- Currently notes near-term action items and sign location decisions
- Will eventually include signage

# Signage and Pavement Marking Guide

## Downriver Communities

Web meeting with advisory committee held on October 20, 2020.

### Action Items for Near Term Routes

- Initiate road diet study with MDOT on M-29 between Nook Road and Liberty Street to incorporate bikeway within the existing curbs
- Initiate lane narrowing study with MDOT on M-29 between Liberty Street and State Street to incorporate bikeway within the existing curbs
- Explore options for providing local inland bicycle route through Algonac and Clay Twp providing a by-pass to M-29 and a loop route in the City
- Provide alternative Bridge to Bay Trail route along M-29 when the trail to Algonac State Park floods
- Explore options for providing local bike route on Harsens Island
- Coordinate with new county park in Clay Twp to provide amenities for bicycles, such as a bicycle repair station and drinking fountains
- Where the paved shoulder is designated as a bike route, modify the edge line markings at intersections to be consistent with typical bike lane markings. Specifically, remove radius markings and eliminate paved shoulders to the right of designated right turn lanes.

### Trailhead Sign Locations and Parking

- Ira Township Park - Principal Kiosk and Trailhead Parking
- Waterworks Park - Secondary Kiosk
- Pearl Beach Pier - Secondary Kiosk
- Clay Township Park - Secondary Kiosk and Trailhead Parking
- New County Park in Clay Twp - Principal Kiosk (Future)
- Brown's Field (Harsens Island) - Principal Trailhead
- Algonac Waterfront Park - Principal Kiosk
- Smith Recreation Field - Secondary Kiosk
- Algonac Lions Park - Principal Kiosk and Trailhead Parking
- Algonac State Park - Principal Kiosk

Responsible Agency:

City of Algonac and MDOT

City of Algonac and MDOT

City of Algonac and Clay Twp

City of Algonac and Clay Twp

Clay Twp

Clay Twp and St Clair County

MDOT

Responsible Agency:

Ira Twp

Ira Twp

Clay Twp

Clay Twp

St Clair County Parks

Clay Twp

Algonac

Algonac

Algonac

MDNR

- Please review – these are summaries of the decisions made in the various trail group meetings
- We note if there has or has not been a meeting with the community to discuss the recommendations

# Signage and Pavement Marking Guide



- Organized by community then sub-areas
- Each post / marking location is given a unique identifier in the geographic information system
- Graphically show the exact sign content, assembly, and orientation on the plan
- Communities can sign the entire trail or a portion thereof by choosing what pages to use
- Coordinates with the sign details that have specifics on sign sizes, mounting, etc.

# Next Steps



- Meet with St. Clair County Public Works and Parks and Recreation Staff
- Work with Port Huron City staff on route details
- Meet with Port Huron Trails Committee to continue discussion from previous meeting
- Put together Signage and Pavement Marking Guides for the near-term routes that have been finalized
- Next meeting, Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 to 3:00 pm