

Non-Motorized Technical Report Summary

The Genesee County Regional Trail Plan has been developed to provide a framework for creating an interconnected system of trailways throughout Genesee County.

The Genesee Regional Trail Council, an informal group of trail advocates have proposed a vision that the Genesee County Regional Trail System will provide to a diverse range of residents and visitors a well-maintained, countywide, multi-use trail system that enables non-motorized users to safely access communities and natural areas within and outside of the county.



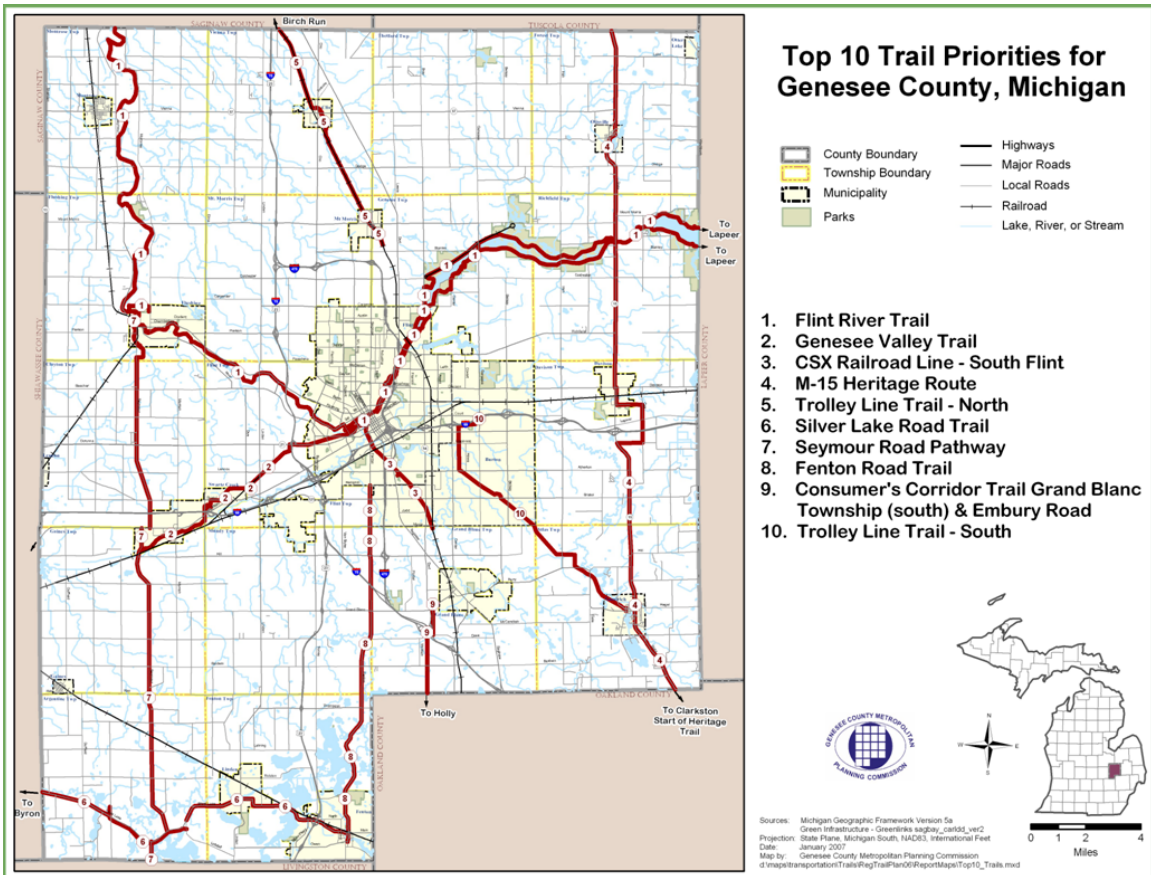
The goals of this plan and initiative are: trail connectivity, alternative transportation, safety for all users, recreational opportunities, providing resources for implementation and education.

Trails provide many benefits to the community including an improved transportation system, health and safety, environmental preservation and economic vitality for the community. Trailways are an important component of creating a livable community and attracting a talented workforce to Genesee County.

There are trails found throughout most areas of Genesee County, yet they are not interconnected. In this plan you will discover potential trail connections identified by the Genesee Regional Trail Council and developed with help from local communities, trail advocates, transportation planners, educational institutions, and lots of public input. Every area of the county has some potential trail connections outlined in this plan.

Design standards and guidelines for good trail development have been outlined. Funding and implementation strategies are also included.

A new trail wayfinding system for Genesee County is incorporated into this plan with informational signage that provides distance, direction and destination information. The signage standards described herein bring uniformity to the trail network while also allowing for personalization for each trail and local community.



Resources for new trail development are included and contact information on new initiatives locally and statewide that can benefit Genesee County's non-motorized planning efforts.

The Genesee County Regional Trail Plan provides an action plan and next steps to building an interconnected regional trail system. The most important connections have been prioritized and this is where we will focus our efforts to begin developing Genesee County's trail system.

The Trail Priorities identified as the Top Ten Priority Trail Projects are provided in the map on the previous page.

Implementation Strategy

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission has been actively working with local trail groups to implement the trail plan by 1) working on preliminary design for the top five priority trails and seeking funding for those connections; 2) providing educational opportunities for the community in areas of trail development, green infrastructure planning, Complete Streets, and the Regional Trails and Greenway Summit; 3) meeting with local road agencies and municipalities to coordinate on trail development; 4) bringing the trail message to the local community at area events and providing trail maps and info; 5) development of a Complete Streets Policy for Genesee County that can become the guiding principles for improving transportation in Genesee County to encourage walking, bicycling and transit use that is safe and accessible for everyone.