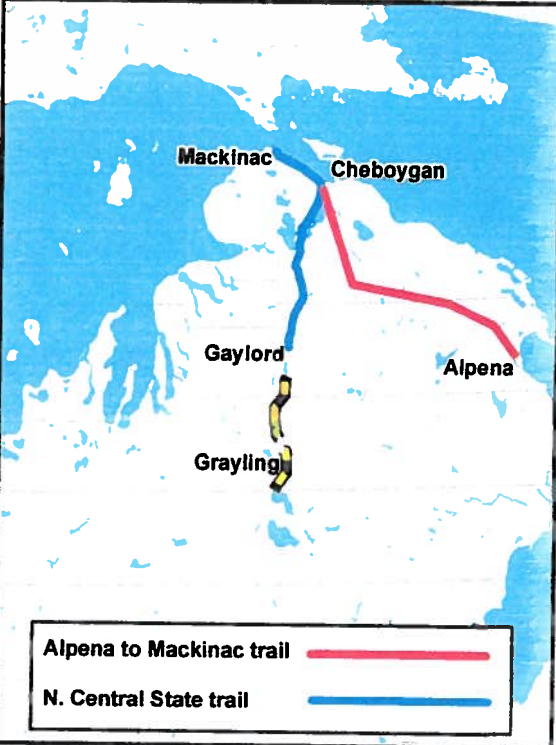
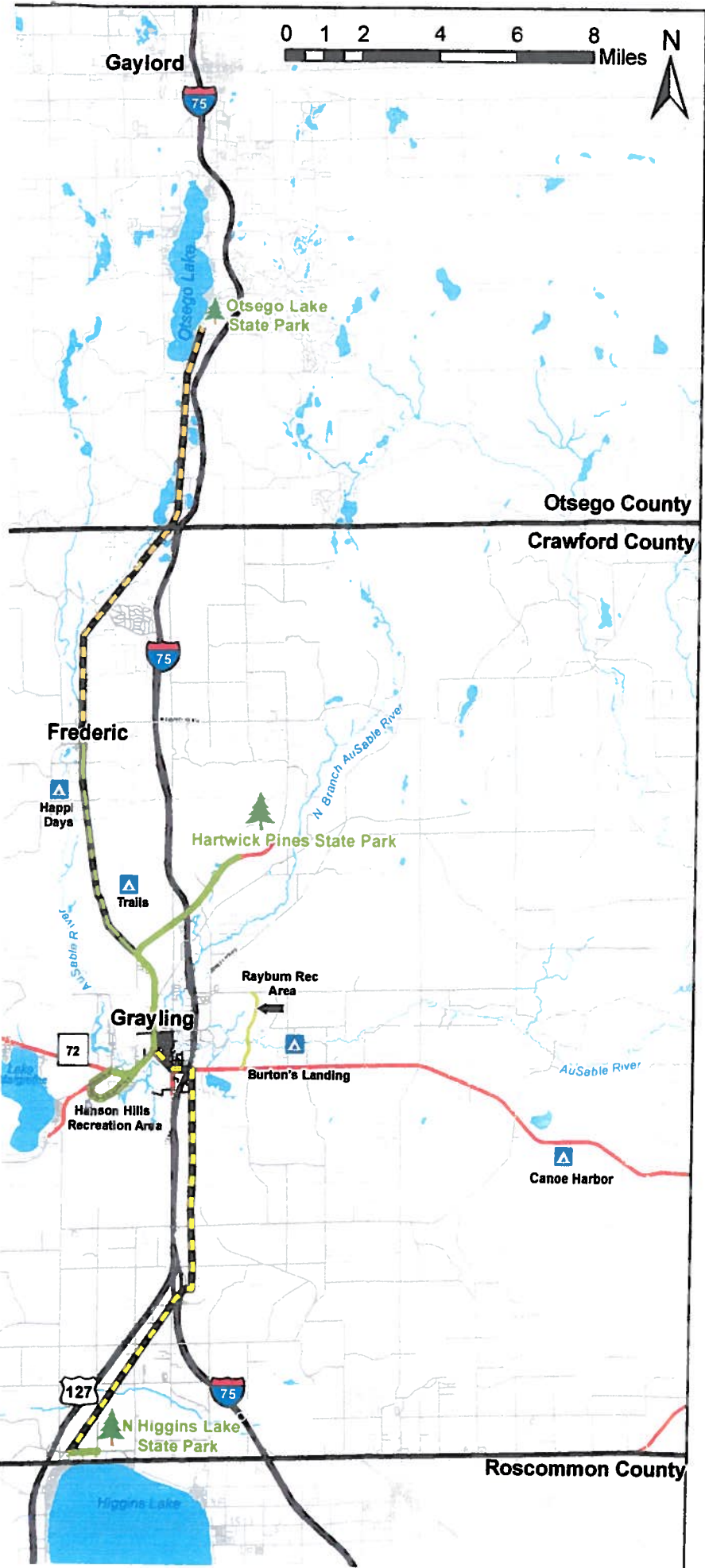


Crawford County Trails Committee

North Higgins Lake and Otsego Lake
Bike Path Extension
Project Locations



Map Features

- County Boundary

Bike Paths

Path Type

- Existing Separate Bike Path
- Existing Extended Shoulders
- Rayburn Recreation Area trail
- Proposed N Higgins Lake Ext.
- Proposed Frederic Ext.
- Proposed Frederic to Otsego Ext.

Streets and Highways

Road Type

- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
- STATE TRUNKLINE
- COUNTY ROADS
- CITY STREET
- OTHER

N. Higgins Lake State Park to Otsego Lake State Park Trail Quick Facts

40 miles total - Grayling Bicycle Turnpike (25% of proposed trail) is completed.

30 miles of trail needed that can be segmented into 12, 6, 5, and 7 mile projects.

Proposed trail is separate paved family friendly route – safe for children of all ages.

North- South route of trail connects three State Parks servicing 400,000 visitors yearly.

Connects large non-motorized traffic generators – brings visitors to communities.

North-South route supports current Gaylord to Mackinac trail that is completed.

Crawford, Otsego and Roscommon Counties have supported initiative with resolutions.

North – South Route supports historic bicycle ride from Lansing to Mackinac.

MDOT Enhancement and DNR funds could be used for design and construction.

Trail leverages impact of vacation traffic generated at nexus of I-75 and M-27.

Provides a non-motorized trunkline that will encourage regional trail development.

Parks and trail develops a world class hiking/biking/camping multi-week vacation venue.

Issues

Who should have primary responsibility for trail project?

What constitutes transportation/recreation use of proposed trail for funding purposes?

What is the cost of the project in today's dollars (10M?).

What can be included to make this a world class trail system?

What is the timeline for the proposed project?

Slide 1

Non-Motorized Access Development In Michigan

(a view from the community level)

Slide 2

Non-Motorized Philosophy

Connect Non-Motorized Traffic Generators

Slide 3

According to the DNR's current State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP):

Top Five Recreation Activities Michigan Residents Want:

1. Biking, all types	25%
2. Camping	24%
3. Fishing	23%
4. Walking Outdoors	21%
5. Hiking, all types	20%

Slide 4

Connection Types



- None
- Sidewalks
- Extended Shoulders
- Separate pathways
- Bridges where needed

Slide 5


Amenities that make a trail more attractive



- Formal Trailheads to park an auto
- Signage with distances to destinations
- Map boards and interpretive signage
- Water availability and restrooms
- Handicap accessible
- Camping and picnic areas
- Public Transportation Bike Transport
- Downloadable On-line Information
- Bicycle Rentals

Slide 6


Levels of Possible Tourism Visibility



- **Local** - little if connecting local traffic generators.
- **Regional** - some if connecting attractions.
- **State-wide** - yes if combined with multi-day attractions such as parks or multiple destination such as museums, unique communities.
- **National** - yes if offering unique attractions in a multi-state area-Mackinac Island-Multi Park-Fishing-Camping-Non-motorized Trip Taking Opportunity (30 to 100 mile trip with shuttle back option).
- **International** - yes if combined with other attractions with international visibility-Mackinac Island Trout Fishing Venues Birding Opportunities-Trip taking opportunities with shuttle back options.

Slide 7

How Trails are Developed



- Local volunteers explore opportunities
- Develop and advocate for a concept
- Approach funding sources
- JTH*

*Juni through hoops

Slide 8


Areas of Coordination By Project Applicants



*Juni through hoops

Slide 9

Connecting North Higgins Lake, Hartwick Pines, and Ossego Lake State Parks



A 40 mile North South trail concept that would enable 400,000 park attendees visit multiple State and local attractions such as rivers and lakes on bicycle or on foot utilizing the Governors Showcase Trail

The present system would have the local communities managing this process.


When completed, these three state parks - with the Governor's "Iron Bell Trail" - should be expected to draw additional tourism to Michigan

Strong consideration should be given to making this three park project into a linear State Park as has been done with the White Pine Linear State Park.

This project can be segmented into 12, 6, 5 and 7 mile projects

Slide 10


Governors Trail - Connecting Three State Parks - Project Options



1. DNR/MDOT coordinate funding and project utilizing State Park facility and MDOT construction personnel.
2. DNR/MDOT coordinates funding and Road Commission complete projects within counties.
3. Communities pursue funding and complete project incrementally (ie: Grayling Bicycle Turnpike).

Slide 11


Funding Sources Match Review



- Local – Act 51 – 1% of funds – no match
- MDOT (Enhancement Grants) 20 % match
- DNR (Trust Fund – Passport – Land and Water Conservation Grants) 25 % match – note that the DNR reduced their project development limit to \$300,000 which does not build a very long trail.

Slide 12


Funding Source Restrictions



<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DNR: Must be Recreation <p>Locals typically request funding through an agency unique application and work to find the match while figuring out the many steps of the project completion process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MDOT: Must be Transportation <p>Locals typically request funding through an agency unique application and work to find the match while figuring out the many steps of the project completion process.</p>
---	--

Slide 13

Our Opinion



In many cases, depending on the officials involved, trail development in Michigan is from the bottom up – not coordinated by subject matter experts from the top down.

Slide 14

Funding sources have no central coordination






Michigan's largest trail funding sources fail to compliment each other's effort



Slide 15


Funding Sources Typically Act Independently



DNR Trust Fund	MDOT Enhancement Grant
	
25 % Match Needed	20% Match Needed

Slide 16


Important concepts on trail use



- If riding a bicycle from a State Park to another State Park or community replaces the need for visiting on public roads then this trip would have a **transportation component**.
- If riding a bicycle from one State Park to another or a community provides the travelers with exercise then this trip would also have a **recreation component**.


Slide 17

Funding Sources Used To Match Each Other



In Projects Where Both Recreation And Transportation Components Exist - Use The Funding Sources of the DNR and MDOT To Match Each Other. Bring A Professional Team Together to Fast Track The Project.

Each fund matches the other with 25% to 50%



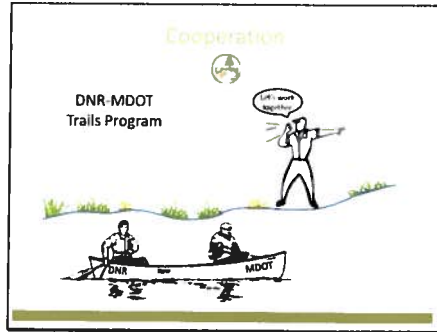
Slide 18

Missed Opportunities

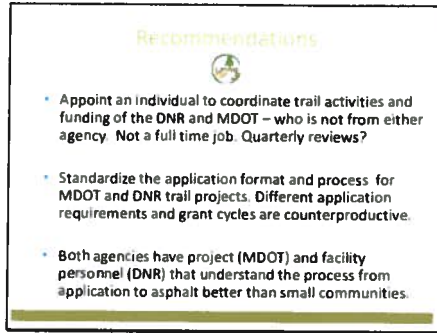


No one with project development expertise coordinates the activities of Michigan's two largest trail funding sources to work jointly on major trail projects that would build inter-state, national and international tourism projects.

Slide 19



Slide 20



Slide 21

