



Master Plan Study Session

Washington Township
Transportation Plan
Implementation Plan
July 13, 2023

Transportation Plan

Transportation Goals & Objectives

Transportation. The Township's road and pathway system will provide safe and efficient circulation for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers. Road design will respect the context of the area surrounding the road.

- a. Prioritize public safety in all transportation planning.
- b. Use traffic studies and development impact statements to manage the growth of traffic in high-development areas.
- c. Consider ways to provide paths for vehicular travel that are not concentrated on principal thoroughfares.
- d. Continue to require and built out the Township's multi-use pathway system.
- e. Manage site access to improve traffic safety. Consider the role that cross-access and frontage or backage roads might play in reducing turning movements onto and off of major thoroughfares.
- f. Encourage or require pedestrian connections between neighboring subdivisions, and pedestrian circulation within subdivisions.
- g. Incentivize the provision of bicycle parking facilities in commercial and mixed-use developments.
- h. Engage with state and county authorities for improvements in access to and across M-53, with an emphasis on safety and mobility within the Township.
- i. Continue to provide more access points and trailheads for the Macomb-Orchard Trail.

Road Classifications

1. Freeway: Limited access and mostly grade-separated; M-53 is mostly a true freeway in Washington Township.
2. Regional Road: A major road with a boulevard that serves the region and has direct access to local roads and non-residential sites (150-foot right-of-way).
3. Major Thoroughfare: Roads that serve major movement of traffic within or through the area (120-foot right-of-way).
4. Secondary Thoroughfare: These thoroughfares are less oriented around through traffic, and more toward providing local access (120-foot right-of-way).
5. Collector: Brings vehicles from local neighborhood streets onto thoroughfares (86 ft right-of-way).
6. Local: Provides direct access to individual lots (60-foot right-of-way).

Thoroughfare Plan

1. Freeway: M-53
2. Regional Road: 26 Mile
3. Major Thoroughfares: 32 Mile, Mound, Powell, Schoenherr, 29 Mile, Van Dyke north of Campground
4. Secondary Thoroughfares: all other mile roads, Snell, West, Hayes, Jewell, Dequindre, Inwood, Van Dyke south of Campground, Campground, Mount Vernon

Our natural beauty roads are also secondary thoroughfares: Campground north of 29 Mile, and Mount Vernon from 29 Mile to 31 Mile

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Road Safety

1. Physical improvements. Certain intersections and road segments will be prioritized for upgrades, changes to their alignment, or other changes that will improve their overall safety. Continued construction of pathways separating non-motorized travel from vehicles is also a component of improving safety for all users.
2. Access management. We will continue to seek ways to limit access points onto major roads and create cross-connections between sites, especially in the Village area.
3. Speed. Study areas where posting speed limits rather than relying on the statutory 55mph limit might be appropriate.

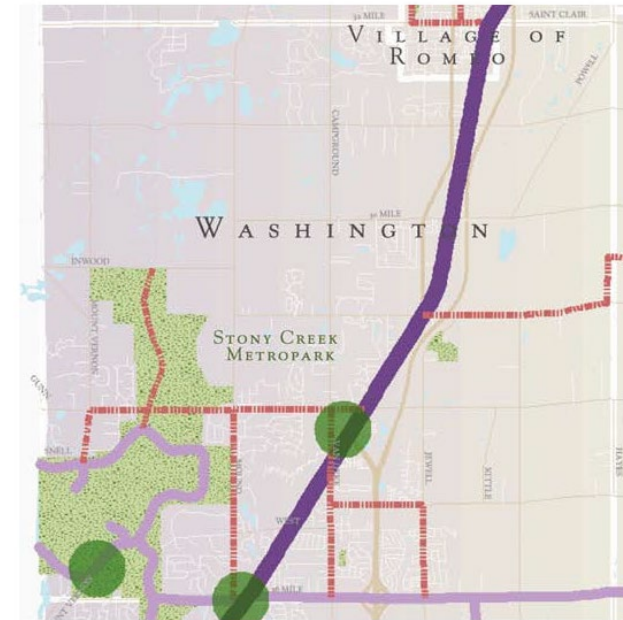
Non-Motorized Plan

Sidewalks:

This plan will carry forward the sidewalk plan based on the map developed for the Zoning Ordinance last year. However, the language of the plan will reflect the fact that some areas previously marked “required” will now be classified as “planned,” based on recent case law.

Pathways:

Incorporates and prioritizes pathways identified in the Macomb County Trailways Master Plan (see map at right).



Sidewalk Plan

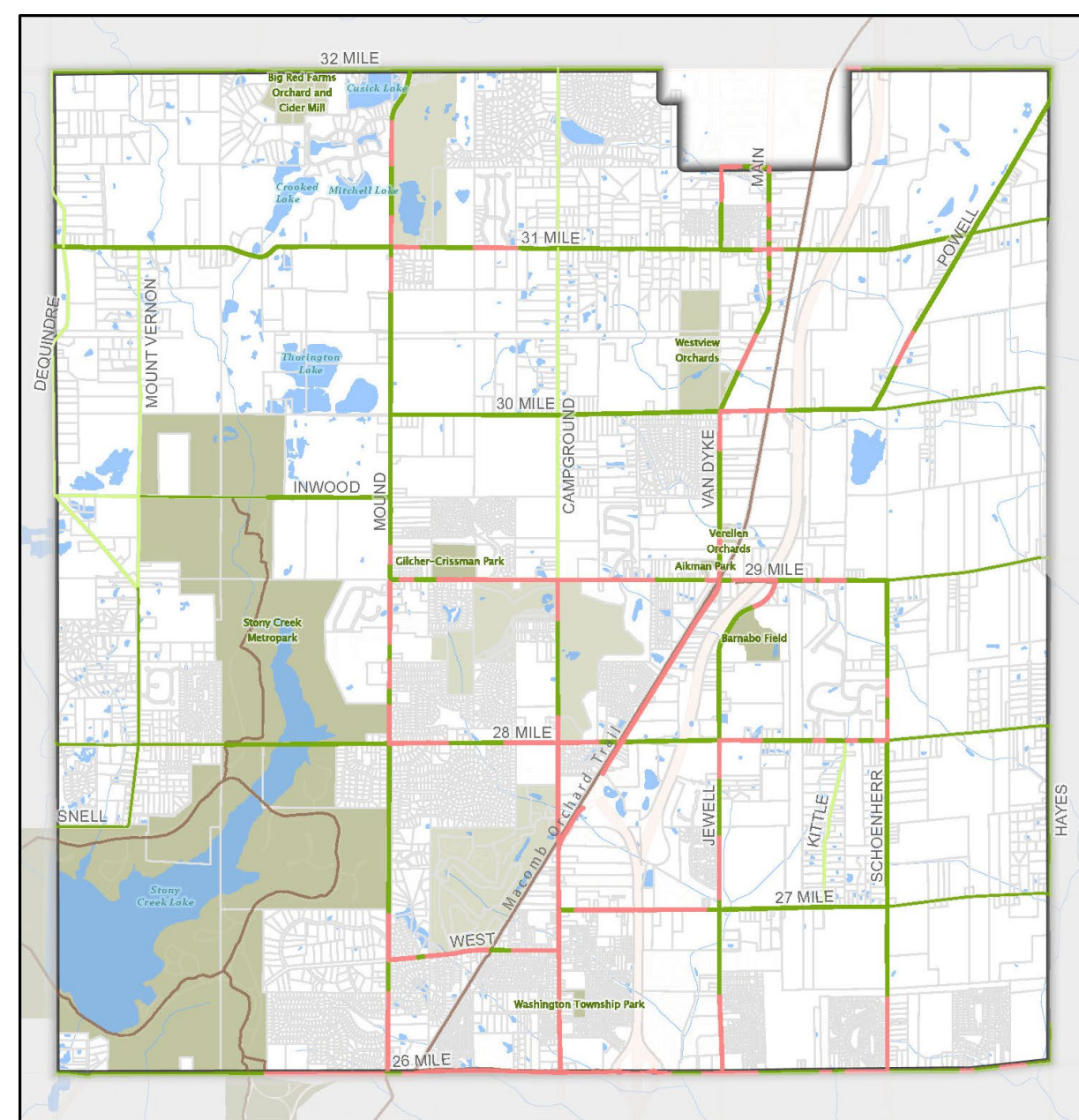
SIDEWALKS

- Existing
- Planned
- Optional
- Excluded

PARK PATH

- Built

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP Sidewalk/Pathway Plan

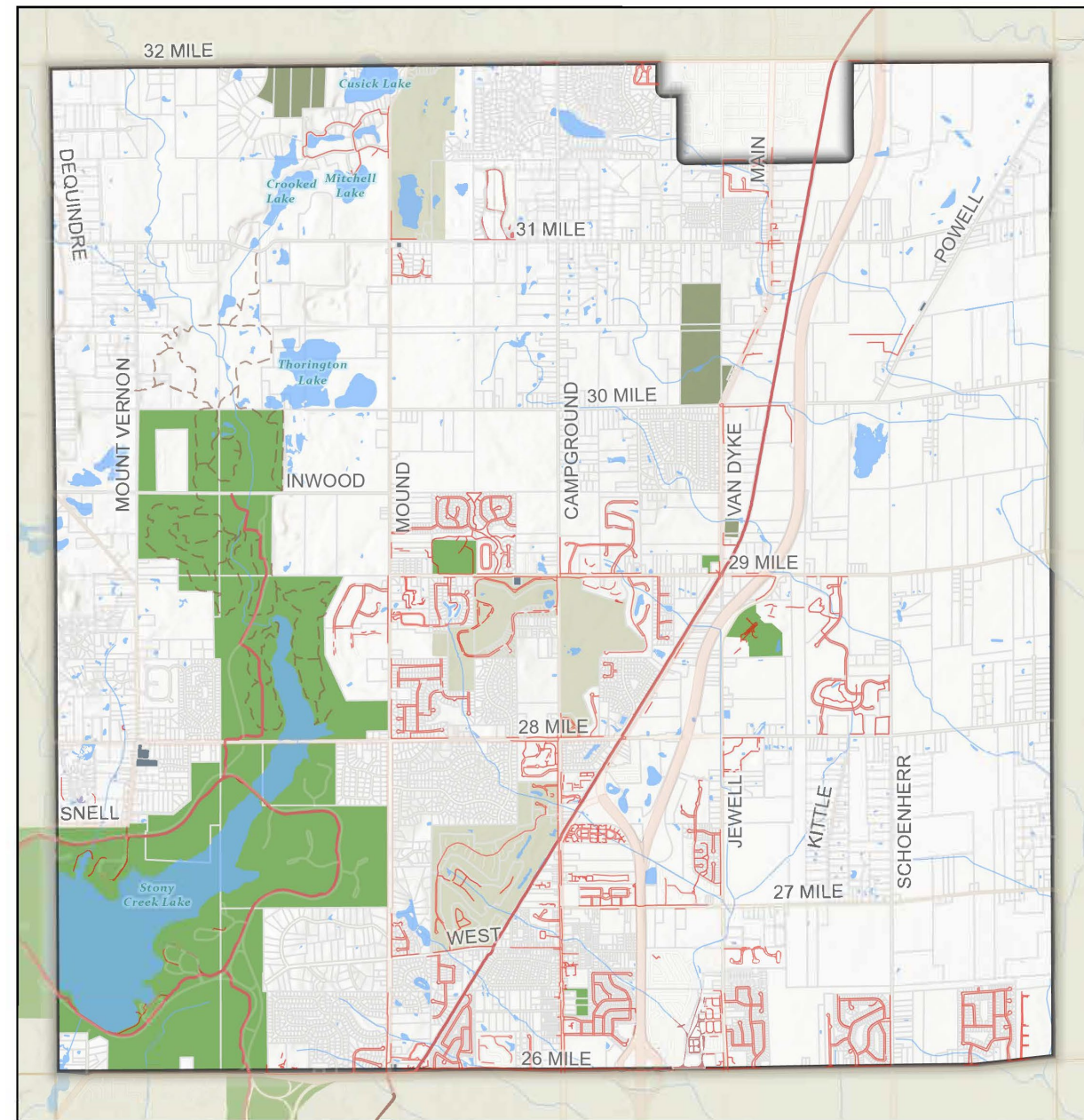


Data Source: Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA. Roads, Trails, and Parks: SEMCOG 2022. Map Exported: August 10, 2022. ©2022 Giffels Webster.

Existing Non-Motorized Facilities

- Trails
- Sidewalks
- Main Trails

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP EXISTING NON-MOTORIZED FACILITIES



Data Source: Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA. Roads, Trails, and Parks: SEMCOG 2022. Map Exported: July 25, 2022. ©2022 Giffels Webster.

Implementation

Implementation

It is very easy for a Master Plan to be placed in a drawer upon completion and forgotten.

A plan that provides a means for tracking progress toward its goals is more likely to be actively used in future decision-making.

The Implementation Plan is structured to provide this kind of guidance and trackability.

Goals vs Objectives vs Action Items

- Goals are general statements about a particular aspect of future development.
- Objectives add detail to the goals and are more specific about how we might achieve our goals.
- Action items are concrete actions we can take to advance our goals and objectives. They can often be tied to a responsible party or potential source of funding, and progress on an action item is often measurable.

Implementation Matrix

The Master Plan will organize its implementation action items in a large matrix that facilitates follow-up and tracking. This is a sample to show the structure.

Goal 4: Housing. The Township will provide and permit housing that serves a variety of needs, facilitates aging in place, and offers a high level of quality and aesthetic appeal.

Action item	Lead Body	Time Frame	Potential Funding	Supporting Resources	Benchmark
Provide resources, including home improvement support, social services, and transportation assistance, for seniors to support aging in place	Board	Next 10 years	Grant funding	Macomb County, MSHDA, SMART, Parks & Rec	Are seniors staying in, maintaining homes?
Adopt standards for reasonable accommodation of housing for the disabled	PC	Next year	Planning budget		Amendment adopted
Work to close gaps in the pathway network and connect to subdivisions' internal networks	Board	Next 5 years	General fund, SEMCOG, TAP grants		Fewer unconnected segments

Advocacy items

Zoning items

Capital Improvements

Other action items

Identifying resources, and benchmarks

- The action item matrix identifies **resources** that might help achieve a given goal. This may take the form of an agency, a document, a recurring grant opportunity, or some other resource that could aid the Township in implementation.
- **Benchmarks** may be highly quantitative or more qualitative, but in general, we are tying each action item to a standard of review. When we revisit our Master Plan in the future, or review our progress in the meantime, we will be able to measure ourselves against the benchmark(s) for each action item. In some cases, we may need to gather some baseline data.
- We recommend that the Planning Commission establish a standing annual review date for the Implementation Plan (i.e., every September we will review our progress).

Zoning Plan

- Most future land use categories correspond to one or two zoning districts. The exception is “recreation & support.”
- While a zoning plan, by statute, is only required to note which zoning districts correspond to which future land use categories, it is helpful for a zoning plan to also gather in one place the various other zoning amendments that the plan identifies as promoting its implementation.
- Future Land Use Map memo includes a summarized Zoning Plan.