

Troy Trails & Pathways



Project Update

January 2009

Agenda

1. Background
2. About the Project
3. The Next Step
4. A Recipe for Success



Background

- Troy Trails and Pathways is a project to establish and promote a network of multi-use trails within Troy, and to connect them to other trail systems in the SE Michigan area.



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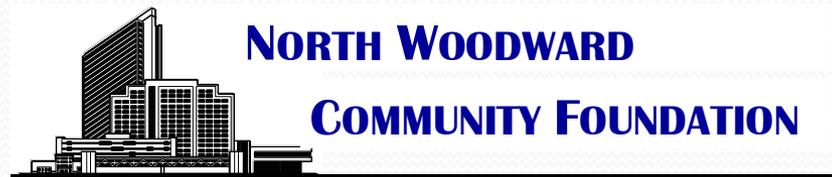
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Background

A collaborative effort between

- Troy Trails & Pathways Committee
- City of Troy
- North Woodward Community Foundation (NWCF)



So, why does Troy need
Trails and Pathways?



Trends

- More people biking, jogging, walking the dog, etc.
- People are seeking alternative modes of transportation
- Uncertainty of energy prices
- Trails are a common amenity in desirable cities, including progressive communities surrounding Troy

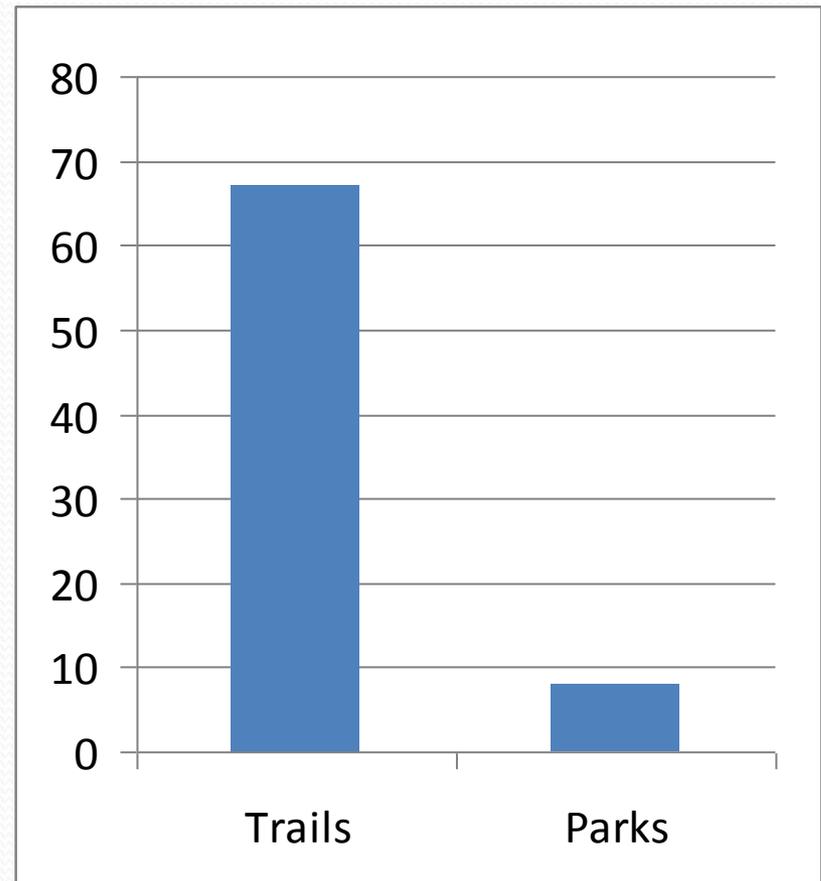
Return on Investment

- Promotes healthy lifestyles
- Improves pedestrian & bicycle safety
- Fosters regional collaboration
- Builds a sense of community
- Increases Troy's desirability factor
- Retains and attracts the “creative class”
-and responds to citizens' request for trails

Parks & Rec Survey Results

- Most popular request:
 - More trails (67% of City residents)
- Second most popular request:
 - Neighborhood parks (8%)

(2005)



Plans and Studies Endorsing Trails

- Troy Vision 2020
- Civic Center Priority Task Force
- City of Troy Parks & Rec Five-Year Plan
- City of Troy Master Plan
- Big Beaver and Maple Rd Corridor Studies
- Troy/Birmingham Transit Center Design Charrette
- Rochester Hills Parks & Rec Master Plan
- Oakland County Trails Master Plan
- Macomb County Trails Master Plan
- Southeastern Michigan Greenways Initiative
- Michigan Statewide Trails Vision and Action Plan



Vision

- Troy is a community with a culture that promotes its extensive non-motorized transportation network.



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Mission

- Work with stakeholders to plan and promote a safe, sustainable, non-motorized transportation network that links the people and places of Troy.



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Subcommittees

- **Funding:** for both project implementation and on-going maintenance
- **Outreach:** educating the community about the project and pedestrian/bike safety issues
- **Routes:** identifying pathways in Troy and connections to other trail networks
- **Lights, Surface, Signage, Zoning:** establishing a sense of identity and reviewing City policies and ordinances

Current Goals

- Increase the mileage of
 - Sidewalks
 - Shared paths
 - Bicycle lanes
 - Bicycle routes
- Identify potential routes to connect key destinations
 - Schools
 - Parks
 - Dining
 - Shopping
- Improve safety of crossings
- Expand bicycle parking facilities

Current Goals

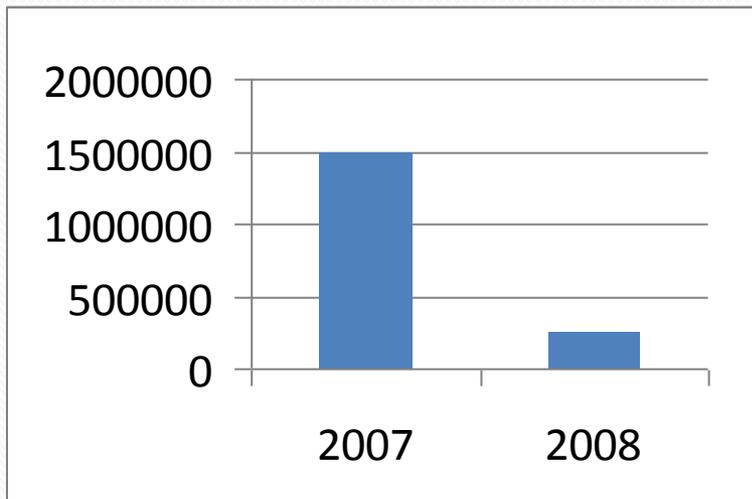
- Proactively communicate with residents about the benefits of trails and pathways
- Coordinate with neighboring communities
- Work with Traffic Engineering on road projects
- Align City's planning/building codes and public works policies with growth in trails
- All Troy citizens within one mile of a trail



Funding

City of Troy capital fund

- 2007: \$1,500,000
- 2008: \$ 250,000



NWCF component fund

- 2007: allocated \$1,000
- 2008: accepting donations
- Current fund balance is \$2,600

Recent Activities

- Developed preliminary routes and signage plans
- Analyzed RFP vendor responses to develop a Trails Master Plan for Troy
- Created a brochure as part of an education and awareness campaign
- Created informational web page

The next step is....



A Troy Trails Master Plan



What's in a Trails Master Plan?

- Identify *specific* routes and sites
- Set *concrete* goals
- Develop *cost estimates*
- Establish *timelines*

Why a Trails Master Plan is Crucial

Establishes clear direction for the project

Provides a framework for successful implementation and completion

A completed master plan *and* community funding support are common prerequisites for many grant and matching fund programs.

MDOT is required to take into account a community's master plans.



Timeline

Fall 2008: Request for Proposal released

Winter 2008-9: Contract approved by City Council

Summer 2009: Draft Trails Master Plan completed

Fall 2009: Trails Master Plan finalized and accepted by
City Council



Council's Recipe for Success

1. *Approve* the recommended contract to develop a Trails Master Plan
2. Give trails and pathways a *high priority* during the budget process
3. Assign a significant dollar amount to the trails capital fund *every year*
4. *Accept* the final Trails Master Plan

Questions?



*Thank you for your time
and attention!*

