# Jackson **City • County** Nonmotorized Plan

### **Steering Committee Meeting**

Date:	e: Friday, April 5, 2019					
Time:	9:30 am to 11:30 am	Plea and				
Location:	100 East Michigan Ave, Jackson, MI 49201					
	1 Jackson Square Building, 11 <sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room					

Please note new time and meeting location!

The purpose of the meeting is to review the inventory and analysis findings and discuss the public engagement strategy.

### Agenda

•	Introductions	9:30 – 9:40
•	Inventory & Analysis Review and Discussion	9:40 - 10:30
	<ul> <li>Regional Context and Plan Framework</li> </ul>	
	Roadway Conditions and Crashes	
	Community Health and Vulnerable Populations	
	Land Use and Travel Patterns	
	• Existing Conditions and Potential Facilities for Pedestrians	
	<ul> <li>Existing Conditions and Potential Facilities for Bicyclists</li> </ul>	
	Existing Transit System	
	Summary Analysis of Activity Centers	
•	Public and Stakeholder Engagement Meetings	10:30 – 10:45
	Schedule	
	• Format	
	• Survey	
•	Online Input Opportunities	10:45 – 11:00
	Crowdsourcing Map	
	• Survey	
•	Next Steps	11:00 - 11:30
	<ul> <li>Meeting and Website Promotion Strategy</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Finalize Workshop Survey and Workshop Materials</li> </ul>	

### **Steering Committee Meeting Notes**

April 5, 2019

#### Below is a summary of key points from the meeting.

#### Introduction:

- Meeting participants were asked to write down three things that make Jackson County and City of Jackson special then to share one of them with the group. Below is a list of what people shared:
  - City has good bones facilitate connections, social networks, older cities, nice block layout
  - Collaborative efforts of people at every level
  - Small town atmosphere, yet large enough to have amenities
  - River through town
  - Reconstruction efforts
  - Downtown Atmosphere with small town feel
  - Year-round outdoor activities parks, trails, lakes
  - Cultural collaboration
  - Community of surprises ahead of the game in trails with nearly complete cross county trail
  - Changes and dynamics of Jackson Downtown making a comeback, new residence, and improvements
  - Natural resources in the county
  - Cool place to visit, downtown is nice
  - Proximity of Jackson to larger communities, good size city, laid back, parks, and lakes
  - A lot of parks Ella Sharp a true gem, small colleges, small community with a lot of attractions

#### Inventory & Analysis Review:

- Regional Context and Plan Framework
- Roadway Conditions and Crashes
- Community Health and Vulnerable Populations
- Land Use and Travel Patters
- o Existing Conditions and Potential Facilities for Pedestrians
- o Existing conditions and Potential Facilities for Bicyclists
- Existing Transit Systems
  - JATA interested in providing specific feedback about transit issues related to the plan – invite to outreach meetings or meet with one-on-one

• Summary Analysis of Activity Centers

### Public and Stakeholder Engagement Meetings

- People might be curious to what the meeting will include. Are people expected to be there the entire time or just pop in when they want? Need to make clear on meeting handout TGC will updated handout with more detailed meeting information
- Fix flyer map label Hanover Twp should be Pulaski Twp
- Parkside is 6pm to 8pm buses don't run that late
  - Approach JATA for return shuttle that day? Tanya will check
  - Maybe change location of meeting YMCA may be a good location. Tanya and Jennie will discuss.
  - Tanya will confirm final meeting information with TGC and TGC will update flyer to include any changes
- May 7<sup>th</sup>- elections, so couldn't use township and city buildings that day.

### Surveys

- Will people have an issue determining County versus City verbiage?
  - Decided to keep survey question as written.
- Make sure that we know which meeting the survey came from incase we need to reference it later.
  - TGC will all meeting surveys into an online form and sort by collectors, so we know what survey came from what source and location.
- Is this the only survey we do? Good for initial input second round of input could help get more details.
  - There will be a second round of input where we could do a survey if it makes sense.

### **Online Input Opportunities**

• May be opportunity to use Library to promote survey or host survey.

### Meeting and Website Promotion Strategy

- Steering committee members encouraged to promote outreach meetings within their own groups.
- Is there a Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor that the project is hosting?
  - No, we are using a website instead and using existing social media accounts across the county to promote
- Steering Committee will be given package of promotion materials.
- Use printed Media in rural areas Brooklyn exponent, Citizen Patriot.

- Post flyers in local towns.
- Helpful if meeting mentioned at Kiwanis, church and other community social gatherings.
- Shaina can reach out to health and social service providers.

#### **Next Steps**

- Confirm meeting location for Jackson.
- Update flyer to include Select-A-Ride.
- Disperse media package in a week for promoting outreach meetings:
  - o Include dates for posting media

Steering Comm	ittee Meeting
Date:4/5/2019 Time:9:	30 am – 11:30 am Location: <u>1 Jackson Square Building</u>
<ul> <li>Angela Kline</li> <li>Bret Taylor</li> <li>Carolyn Prudhomme</li> <li>Christopher Bolt</li> <li>Cindy Hubbell</li> <li>Corey Clevenger</li> <li>David Trent</li> <li>Grant Bauman</li> <li>Jack McCloughan</li> <li>Jeff Hovarter</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Leah Groya</li> <li>Mike Davis</li> <li>Jill Sell</li> <li>Norm Cox</li> <li>Pete Jancek</li> <li>Ryan Biehl</li> <li>Robert Bourgeois</li> <li>Shaina Tinsey</li> <li>Tanya DeOliveira</li> <li>Terri Melchiori</li> </ul>
Jennie Lapp	
Please sign-in below if your name is Name JEFF MATLock Kyle Lewis	e not listed: Organization Email CE Johnst. MATLocke Chisonmod. CM

# Jackson **City • County** Nonmotorized Plan



A plan for people who walk, bike and ride

### Steering Committee Kick-off Meeting

Friday, April 4, 2019 9:30 am – 11:30 am 1 Jackson Square Building 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room





## What <u>3 Things</u> Make Jackson City and County Special?

- Special to YOU!
- Using one of the index cards, briefly note three things that make this place special to you, these could include:
  - People
  - Places
  - Things
  - Anything At All
- Make sure to leave your card on the table



Introduce yourself and then, tell us what's your top thing?



- 1. Introductions
- 2. Inventory & Analysis Review and Discussion
- 3. Public & Stakeholder Engagement Meetings
- 4. Online Input Opportunities
- 5. Next Steps

But before we get going, tell us about yourself

- You should have received a survey – please answer the first question
- We will fill this out as we go along



### Jackson **City ① County** Nonmotorized Plan



### Where Are We in the Process?

	Timeframe in Months	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
								_						
1.	Project Start-Up		0											
2.	Inventory and Analysis													
3.	Public Engagement - Hopes, Concerns & Direction													
4.	Preliminary System Plans								)					
5.	Public Engagement - Preliminary Plan Feedback													
6.	Plan Refinement and Implementation Strategy												)	
7.	Finalize Plan and Adoption Process													<u>A</u>

#### Legend:

#### Task Duration

Bi-Weekly Update Web Meetings with R2PC

- Steering Committee Meetings (7)
- County Board & City Council Meetings (2)
- Community Workshops (20)
- Preliminary List of Workshop Locations:
- 1 Blackman and Rives Township
- 2 Brooklyn & Napoleon, Norvell, and Columbia Twps
- 3 City of Jackson
- 4 Concord & Concord, and Spring Arbor Twps
- 5 Grass Lake & Grass Lake and Waterloo Townships
- 6 Hanover & Pulaski, Hanover, and Liberty Townships
- 7 Leoni and Henrietta Townships
- 8 Parma & Parma and Sandstone Townships
- 9 Springport & Springport and Tompkins Townships
- 10 Summit Township



# Regional Context

- Two Major cross-state trail designations:
  - Iron Belle Trail
  - Great Lake to Lake Trail
- Lots of proposed trails, primarily on the east side of the county
  - May be challenging to implement due to topography, utilities, drainage swales and wetlands







- Central activity hub of the City of Jackson
- Five satellite commercial centers
- Seven satellite hamlets
- Around each commercial areas is commuter walking zone
- In Jackson, there is the addition of a commuter biking zone
- The plan will look at how to improve each of these centers and zones as well as create links between them



# Roadway Inventory

- Many of the main roads through out the county have low traffic volumes and high speeds
- Traffic Speed is most significant factor in safety of all modes
- Opportunities for adding Paved shoulders
  - JDOT's new road resurfacing machine
- May be opportunity to promote backroad bike routes on gravel roads
  - Waterloo Rec. Area
  - Sharonville Game Area









City Private / Other





Unpaved Roads

### **Community Health Areas of Concern**

- Areas with high rates of adults with:
  - High blood pressure
  - Diabetes

NA

- Obesity
- Areas where we should be encouraging daily active transportation trips



## Vulnerable Population Areas of Concern

### • Areas with:

- Low income
- Limited or no access to a vehicle
- High social vulnerability level
- More likely to depend on walking, bicycling, and transit as their primary means of transportation
- 8% of county residents live in households without a car
- 17% of City of Jackson residents live in households without a car



# **Commute to Work**

- Spring Arbor University reflect the higher number of people who walk and bike to work west of Jackson (large census tracks)
  - Primarily students
  - Some faculty
  - Close proximity of home to work/school
- Higher number of Bike, ulletWalk, and Take Transit to Work elsewhere have a strong correlation with Vulnerable Population Areas







### **Bike to Work**



82% of Commute to Work **Trips are** people who live and work in the County

Insufficient Data



For areas not within JATA's Fixed Route Service area may be Reserve-A-Ride

### Take Public Transit to Work



# Land Use and Travel Patterns

- Highest population density in City of Jackson and southern Blackman Township
- The railroad and river acts as significant barriers to bicycle and pedestrian travel around downtown Jackson
- Downtown, MLK Jr. Equity Trail, Falling Water Trail, Cascades Park, & Ella Sharp Park show numerous walkers, runners and bicyclists



#### 2018 USA Population Density Tract







#### **Directness of Travel** Defined by a blocks size



### **STRAVA** The Global Heatmap

Athletes from around the world come here to discover new places to be active. Here's what you should know about the heatmap and the data it reflects:

- The heatmap shows 'heat' made by aggregated, public activities over the last two years.
- The heatmap is updated monthly.
- · Activity that athletes mark as private is not visible.
- Athletes may opt out by updating their privacy settings
- Areas with very little activity may not show any 'heat.'



- Generally areas with high population density, commercial activity, access to recreation, school and transit, a mix of land uses and high connectivity promise the greatest return on investment
- Downtown Jackson extending out to the Henry Ford Allegiance Health Campus rates very walkable
- Other commercial centers somewhat walkable



90-100	Walker's Paradise	
	Daily errands do not require a car	
70-89	Very Walkable	
	Most errands can be accomplished on foot	
50-69	Somewhat Walkable	
	Some errands can be accomplished on foot	
25-49	Car-Dependent	
	Most errands require a car	
0-24	Car-Dependent	
	Almost all errands require a car	

### Where We Can Make the Most Impact

- Block size, population density, and land use mix are the best predictors of pedestrian and bike travel
- This area also has some of the more vulnerable users based on income and access to a vehicle
- The railroad and river isolate this neighborhood from the downtown
- To realize the potential, barriers to bicycle and pedestrian travel need to be addressed and the environment needs to be improved



# **Bicycle and Pedestrian Crash Patterns (2008-2017)**

- NOT significant factors: ullet
  - Drugs or Alcohol
  - Age, time, lighting, road conditions or weather
- Crashes at intersections ۲
  - 63% bicycles
  - 42% pedestrians
- Significant number of  $\bullet$ fatal and serious injury crashes in rural areas
- Significant number of hit-٠ and-runs (25%)
- About half of all crashes • caused injury or death





For most rural bicycle crashes typically:

- a) no paved shoulder;
- b) bicyclists traveling with traffic: and
- c) hit from behind.

#### Bicycle (2008-2017)

- Worst Injury in Crash Fatal Iniurv
- Suspected Serious Injury
- Suspected Minor Injury
- Possible Iniurv
- No Injury

michigantrafficcrashfacts.org

### 269 crashes 6 fatalities

- For rural ped. crashes: a) Number of random crashes for which engineering counter measures are not applicable
- More nighttime b) crashes than urban areas

Pedestrian (2008-2017) Worst Injury in Crash

- Fatal Iniurv
- Suspected Serious Injury Suspected Minor Injury
- 0 Possible Injury
- No Injury

michiaantrafficcrashfacts.ora

305 crashes 12 fatalities

## **Existing Bikeway Connections**

 Falling Water Trail / Lakelands Trail almost complete across county

NAR

- Paved shoulder bicycle connections between communities on the south east side of the county
- Missing connections to the northwest quadrant of the county



**Points of Interest** Jackson County

- Place
- S Campground
- 🐽 Library
- County Park
- State Lands

# **Potential Trail Corridors**

- Many of the abandoned rail corridors identified in previous plans are in private ownership (red)
  - Fractured corridors
  - Some homes and businesses have been built on the former corridors
  - Difficult to implement
- May be opportunities with Consumers Energy
  - Unsure how feasible
  - Farmers may have easements to use the land



**Potential Trail Corridors** *Property Owner* 





Jackson County Outdoor Club



Existing Trail Corridors



- This map illustrates the relative "stress" of bicycling on the roadway
- The local street network actually provides a pretty extensive "low stress" system, but...
- The weak points in the system are crossing busy roads:
  - No crosswalks where low stress streets meet on opposite sides of busy roads
  - Busy signalized intersections with no bicycle facilities



#### Bicycle Stress Map

Stress tolerance levels for bicyclists

- High Stress (bikes share roads with traffic)
- Moderate Stress (designated bike lane with traffic)
- Low Stress (local road or separated bikeway along road with traffic)
- No Stress (off road trail or shared use path)

### **Potential for Near Term Bike Lanes**

- The following data was used to determine if bike lanes could be added to existing roadways:
  - Traffic volumes
  - Number of lanes
  - Speed
  - On-street parking
  - Road width
- A lot of roads appear to have excess lane capacity
- 4 to 3 lane conversions are a FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasure for all modes
  - They also make pedestrian road crossings much easier





# Tell Us About Your Experience and Hopes for Biking



Page1 - survey continued on back of page >>>>

# City of Jackson Sidewalk Network

- Majority of the City of Jackson has sidewalks on both sides of the street
- Outside of the City, few residential streets have sidewalks and the neighborhoods do not have a pedestrian link to the City or adjacent neighborhoods
- Strava maps show a clear association of pedestrian use and the presence of sidewalks



## Pedestrian Routes In the Townships

- Primarily walking on the local roadways
- Dispersed pedestrian crash locations on local roads – generally more minor injuries
- Existing foot paths between neighborhoods illustrate the need to improve connections



# City of Jackson Crosswalk Spacing

- A primary concern for people who walk is getting across the street
- Pedestrians will not detour more than 10% of their total trip distance
- The spacing of existing crosswalks is too far apart throughout the City
- Majority of corridors have over ¼ stretches between crosswalks and signalized intersections
- Looking at land use and crashes to determine where new crosswalks should be located



## **City of Jackson Road Crossing Difficulty**

- The configuration of most roads call for substantial crosswalk solutions
- Lowering the speeds and removing unnecessary lanes helps dramatically
- Think...what would it take for you to feel comfortable crossing Michigan Ave, Cooper and N W Ave/M-50



# Tell Us About Your Experience and Hopes for Walking





- Amtrak Train
  - Improve connection from Train Depot to downtown
- JATA Buses
  - Need basic information at all bus stops including route map and schedule
  - Basic facilities should include accessible concrete pad between sidewalk and curb at stops
  - Need to provide sidewalk connections to stops and crosswalks adjacent to them



### **Connecting Jackson County JATA 2018 Master Plan**

- Outlined seven areas of concern
  - Primarily difficult to access the bus stops
- Identified a number of general issues including:
  - Accessibility of stops
  - Safety
  - Lack of crosswalks associated with stops
- No specifics on the condition of all of the individual stops



### **Transit Center to Amtrak Station Connection**

- Separated by railroad, river and two busy streets
- No direct or obvious connection
- Google suggests an 11 minute walk through Consumer's property, walking down a street without sidewalks, and crossing Francis Street and South Cooper Street where there are not crosswalks





# **Tell Us About Your Experience and Hopes for Transit**



# **Environmental Factors**

- The extensive wetland system and hills that make Jackson County such a lovely place, also make construction difficult
- They have a significant impact on feasibility, permitting, accessibility, and construction costs for new:
  - Sidewalks
  - Paved Shoulders
  - Side Paths
  - Shared Use Pathways



Wetlands



Topography

# Satellite Commercial Center Analysis

A more detailed composite analysis was performed for each of the five commercial centers outside of the City of Jackson:

- Brooklyn
- Concord
- Grass Lake
- Hanover
- Parma
- Springport








- Walkable Main Street Area
- Potential for Bike Lanes on Constitution through lane narrowing and on Marshall if parking removed
- ADA improvements needed at crosswalks
- Few residential streets with sidewalks
- Existing paved shoulders to Jackson, Hayes State Park, and the International Speedway





- Falling Water Trail
  - Connects to Jackson
  - Study underway to continue trail west to Albion
- Potential for Bike Lanes on Main Street if parking removed
- ADA improvements needed at existing crosswalks
- Few residential streets have sidewalks
- Existing paved shoulder to Swains Lake and the edge of Spring Arbor





- Walkable Main Street
   area
- Limited potential for Bike Lanes on Michigan, parking would need to be reconfigured
- Improve crosswalks, especially to schools
- Sidewalks on at least one side of residential street
- Existing paved shoulders to Michigan Center and Washtenaw County border





- May be potential for offroad trail along Consumers Energy Corridor
- Walkable Main Street Area a block off the main road
- ADA improvements needed at existing crosswalks





#### Michigan Ave

- by-pass Main Street
- No sidewalk walks and difficult for bicycle and pedestrians to cross
- Potential for Bike Lanes on part of Main Street if parking removed
- May be potential for offroad trail connection along Consumer Entergy Corridor / Railroad to Albion
- ADA improvements needed at existing crosswalks
- Only half of the residential streets have sidewalks



# Springport

- ADA improvements needed at existing crosswalks
- Potential for bike lanes on part of Main Street if parking removed
- Limited potential for offroad trail, most of abandoned rail corridor in private ownership
- Existing paved shoulder to Eaton County Border
- Most residential streets have sidewalks



#### Public and Stakeholder Outreach Meetings

- 10 meetings in one week
- May 6<sup>th</sup> May 10<sup>th</sup>
- Morning, afternoon and evening meetings based on community preference
- Geographically dispersed across the County
- Lots of opportunities for people to participate
  - Don't need to attend your local meeting, can attend any of them



WONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAY 6	MAY 7	MAY 8	MAY 9	MAY 10
9:30 am - 11:30 am Blackman Twp Hall 1990 W Parnall Rd Jackson, MI 49201	<b>2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</b> Poling Center at Spring Arbor University 133 Ogle Ave Spring Arbor, MI 49283	<b>9:30 am - 11:30 am</b> Pulaski Twp Hall 12363 Folks Rd Hanover, MI 49241		<b>9:30 am - 11:30 am</b> <b>Springport Twp Hall</b> 101 W Main St Springport, MI 49284
<b>2:30 pm - 4:30 pm</b> Columbia Twp Hall 8500 Jefferson Rd Brooklyn, MI 49230		<b>2:30 pm - 4:30 pm</b> Waterloo Twp Hall 9773 Mt Hope Rd Munith, MI 49259	<b>1:00 pm - 3:00 pm</b> Parma Twp Hall 2388 Eaton Rapids Rd Albion, MI 49224	<b>2:30 pm - 4:30 pm</b> Summit Twp Hall 2121 Ferguson Rd Jackson, MI 49203
	<b>6:00 pm - 8:00 pm</b> Middle School at Parkside - Library 2400 4th St Jackson, MI 49203		<b>6:00 pm - 8:00 pm</b> Whistle Stop Depot 210 E Michigan Ave Grass Lake, MI 49240	

## Meeting Format

- Start out with community values exercise
  - What 3 things make Jackson special to YOU?
- Overview Presentation
  - Introduce "Alter Egos"

Do you have any idea what college tuition costs these days? I can barely afford shoes let alone a car. All I can afford to do is walk and bike.

- Participants encouraged to fill out survey as part of presentation
- Small Group Exercise
  - Large Maps of different areas of county
  - What are some of the specific issues you want to see this plan address?









Jackson City (County Nonmotorized Plan GRASS LAKE - LEONI SCALE 1 INCH = 0.5 MILES



#### by Updated Workshop Maps are on the Website



## Anything Else You Would Like to Tell Us?



### Survey Completed? How Did it Work for You?

#### Jackson City County Nonmotorized Plan









If you would like **project updates**, please provide your email below:

Page 2 - please turn in your survey before you leave

## Online Input Opportunities

- Online survey asks same questions as printed survey
- Crowdsourcing map
  - Get input on specific locations
- Encourage meeting participants to spread the word of the web survey to people who were not able to make the meeting
- All meeting and online input information is on the project website

www.WalkBike.info/Jackson





- Meeting and Website Promotion strategy
  - Sending out notices to your own mail lists
  - Posting printed Flyers
  - Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor
  - Word of Mouth
- Finalize Workshop Survey and Workshop Materials
- Next Steering Committee Meeting Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am





## Jackson **City • County** Nonmotorized Plan



A plan for people who walk, bike and ride

# Thank You!



