

**Macomb County Trailways Master Plan
Stakeholder Meeting
January 14, 2004**

Meeting Summary

Attendees

John Crumm	Macomb Co Planning
Gerard Santoro	Macomb Co Planning
Lara Sucharski	Macomb Co Public Works Office
Tom VanDamme	Fraser (Committee Co-Chair)
Eric Wurmlinger	Chesterfield Township
Joe Silbernagel	Clinton Township
Fred Lienemann	City of Fraser
Jon Moore	City of Richmond
Troy Jeschke	City of Richmond
Liz Mancini	City of St. Clair Shores
Daniel Smith	City of Warren
Richard Doherty	City of Warren
Jeanette Ventimiglia	Lenox Township
Kathleen Bolton	Ray Township
Barbara Mention	ITC
Bob Hoepfmer	Road Commission Macomb County
Eric Douglas	Clinton River Pathway
Todd Scott	Michigan Mountain Biking Association
Matt Kowalczyk	Michigan Mountain Biking Association/Friends of the Red Run Trail
Andy Anderson	Prestige Cycles
Michael Sproul	St. Clair Shores resident
Jerry Schmeiser	Macomb Township Planner
Dave Anthony	Wade-Trim
Leah Hutko	Wade-Trim

Tom VanDamme, Committee Co-Chair opened the meeting and had everyone give a brief introduction. He then asked Leah Hutko, Wade-Trim (WT) to proceed with the agenda items. The desired outcomes for the meeting included: report back on meetings that have taken place since the November stakeholder meeting, gather any changes/updates to the maps from local communities, review draft outline for master plan, review public forum agenda and presentation.

Special Interest Meetings

Since the November stakeholder meeting, the County has continued to meet with individual communities, agencies and/or special interest groups to review the project and clarify proposed non-motorized routes. Meetings held since November include:

- o Macomb County Road Commission
- o MDOT
- o Bruce Township
- o Oakland County Planning and Parks Department
- o Inter County Drain Board (anticipated in late January or February)

- o International Transmission Company
Barbara Mention from ITC attended today's stakeholder meeting and distributed a one-page procedural description for pedestrian walkways and bike path development. She indicated that ITC is willing to work with local communities to accommodate trails within their corridors.

Map Changes/Updates

Local communities were asked to look at the latest set of draft maps again and provide any necessary updates or changes to Wade-Trim by the end of January at the latest. Several changes to the Macomb Township map were noted, Macomb Township will follow-up with the County to confirm the requested changes by the end of January so that they can be incorporated for the public forums.

Master Plan Draft Outline

Wade-Trim distributed a draft outline for the master plan and reviewed it with the stakeholders. Input on the outline was requested so that there is a clear vision as to where the plan is headed. Primary chapters include an Introduction to the Vision, Existing Systems, Preferred Corridors, Design Considerations and Implementation Strategy. Stakeholders noted that it would be important and useful to include a segment on financing and funding, to include discussions about quality of life and the "Cool Cities" initiative, smart growth, safety guidelines, safe-routes-to school program and to coordinate with the SEMCOG Bike Map program.

Several good points and comments were made during this discussion. The Master Plan is a broad-brushed vision for non-motorized connectivity within the county and the region. Significant planning and design work will still be necessary to implement various segments of the plan at the local level once the county-wide plan is complete. There is the potential that route locations will change over the years. The plan will need updating as time goes on and plans change or segments are constructed. The Plan is reflecting a long-term vision for non-motorized connectivity. It's likely that the plan will not be implemented in its entirety for 15 to 20 years. The plan will be a starting point and used as a foundation and resource as the local, county and regional agencies forge ahead with non-motorized efforts.

Public Forums

The public forums for the project have been scheduled from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the following locations:

February 18, 2004	Warren Community Center 5460 Arden Road
February 25, 2004	Camp Rotary at Wolcott Mills Metropark, Ray Township 20505 29 Mile Road
March 3, 2004	Clinton-Macomb Public Library 40900 Romeo Plank Road
March 18, 2004	Chesterfield Township 47275 Sugarbush Road

A press release and flyer announcing the forums was distributed to meeting attendees and is available on the project website. The County is looking to the local agencies to distribute word about the forums as much as is possible. At a minimum, local communities should post the flyer around their area at government buildings, libraries, community centers, ice rinks, etc. Those interested could also include language about the project and forums in newsletters, mailings, etc. Links to the project website can also be posted on local community websites. The City of Warren expressed interest in creating a local cable announcement for the forums and possibly interviewing county staff about the project and intent of the forums. This could then be distributed throughout the county to local stations.

Stakeholders and the county also showed an interest in allowing local trail groups and agencies to display their booths or information at the forums. This will be added to the forum agendas as a final item.

A draft powerpoint presentation for the forums was also reviewed with the stakeholders. It was indicated that it may be beneficial to also include images of what trails and facilities look like in other parts of the state or country, particularly the potential for on-road bike lanes and equestrian facilities.

Next Stakeholder Meeting

The four public forums will be held in February and March. Therefore, the next stakeholder meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2004 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Freedom Hill County Park. The primary agenda items will be to review the results of the public forums.