

How does Kalamazoo Township identify potential, non-motorized transportation projects?

Answer:

With public and technical input.

Timeline:

- The public rated sidewalks and trails as a priority need in the Township, in a 2013 Citizen Engagement Survey.
- A Steering Committee of citizens and experts, public presentations, and open houses identified non-motorized needs in the Non-motorized Transportation Master Plan, (adopted Dec. 2014).



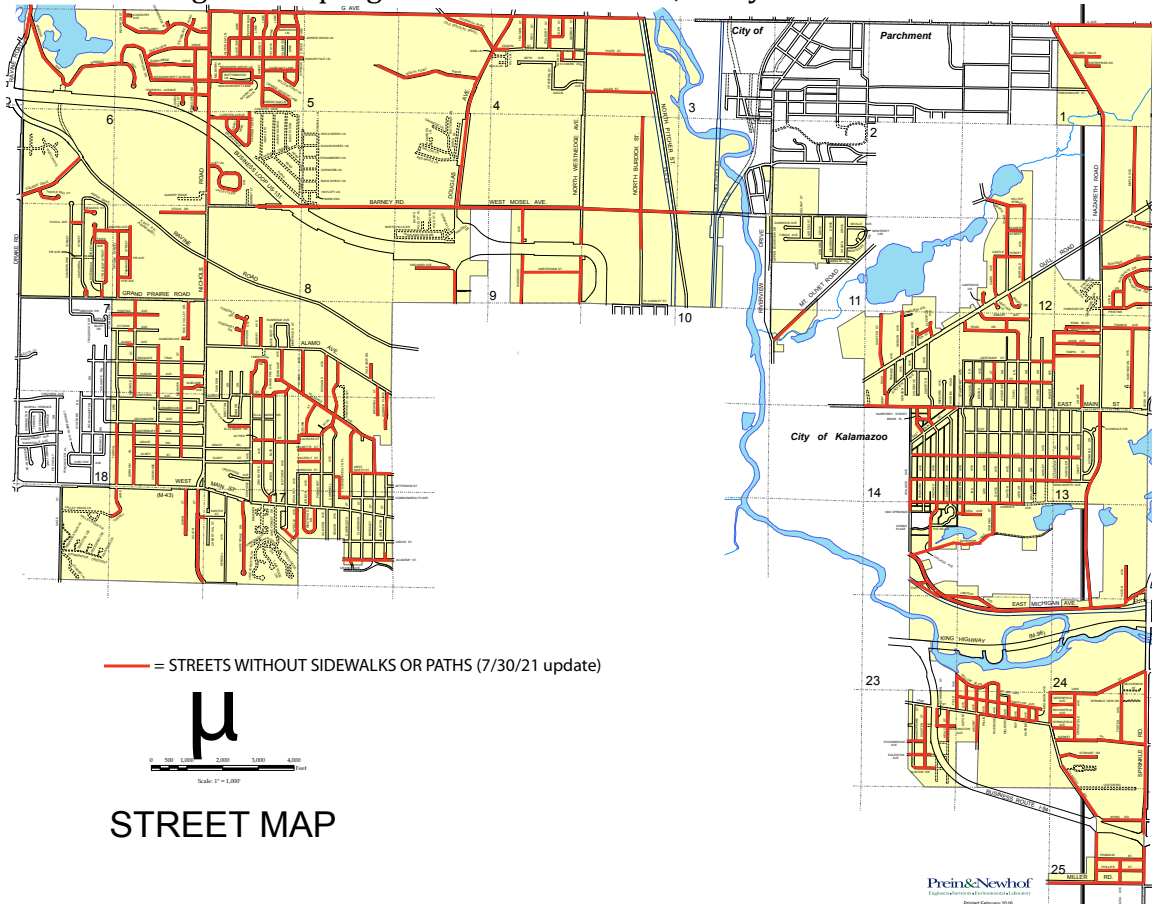
The 2014 Plan explained:

PRIORITY SELECTION CRITERIA

This Master Plan is a long term vision and will take time and funding to be fully realized. The criteria below has been developed in order to help determine how the priority of projects could be selected for implementation. Many of the routes and corridors may be implemented based on the timing of other road or development projects however; there are other factors and elements that should be considered when determining the selection of the initial implementation projects. Over time, as the non-motorized system expands, priority route selection criteria will likely change.

- **Ease of implementation**
 - Few design conflicts
 - Lower construction costs
 - No environmental challenges
 - Right of way or easement available
- Provides access to multiple destinations / points of interest / recreational activities
- Coincides with other road reconstruction, utility, or park construction projects
- Will improve and/or enhance unsafe areas
- Provide barrier free accessibility
- Provides connections to existing local and/or regional non-motorized facilities
- Includes connections to schools
- Provides alternate transportation modes
- Provides connections to other communities
- Provides connections to points of interest
- Degree of impact on vehicular traffic capacity
- Available funding sources

- An Implementation Committee of citizens and two board members focused the overwhelming scope of needs on four practical areas in 2015, including:
 - Safe Routes to Schools
 - Improvements to existing sidewalks, particularly deficient slabs and orphaned corners
 - Sidewalks on primary and other busy roads
 - Access to the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail
- Even after significant progress on busier streets, many streets lack sidewalks.



- For the *2021 Plan Update*, citizen input guided the Planning Commission to recommend continuing the four focus areas, particularly **existing infrastructure**, such as improving deficient concrete sidewalk slabs, orphaned corners, and in-filling sidewalk gaps.



- The Township continues to seek input and share information via board meetings, social media, newsletter, web site, telephone and email communications, office visits, and more.