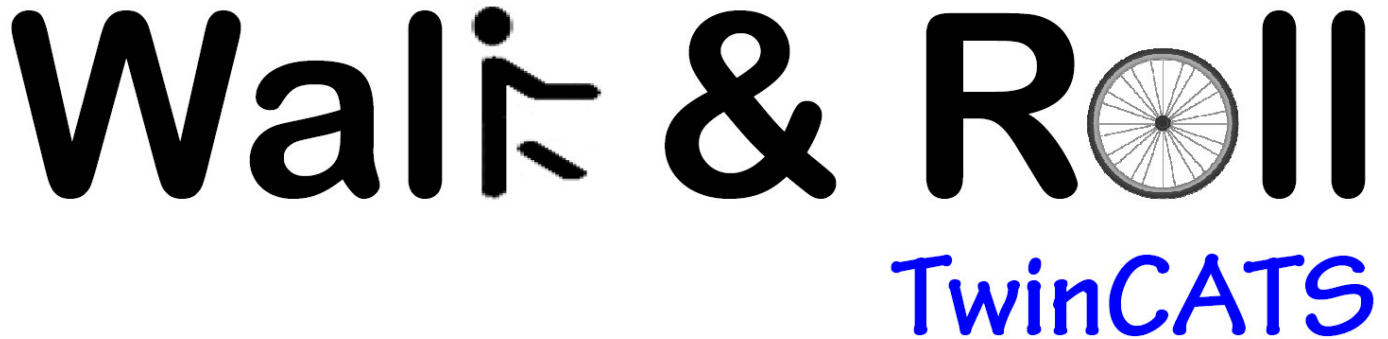


Twin Cities Area Transportation Study
Non-Motorized Transportation Subcommittee Report

NAME AND LOGO:



MISSION STATEMENT:

- To identify and build a system or network for local and regional connectivity for safe transportation for all users
 - Including pedestrians, individuals with disabilities, novice cyclists, serious cyclists, and transit riders; and
 - Through the use of sidewalks, bike lanes, shared lanes, paved shoulders, and off-road pathways.

PARTICIPANTS:

TWINCATS COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:	Mickey Bennett, Sodus Township Chris Cook, City of Benton Harbor (Abonmarche Consultants) Willie Fryer, City of St. Joseph Larry Merritt, St. Joseph Charter Township / Merritt Engineering Kevin Reed, Berrien County Road Commission Dick Stauffer, Lincoln Charter Township Sarah Woolcock, MDOT – Coloma TSC
SWMPC STAFF:	Nickolas Musson Anna Rahtz Suzann Flowers
OTHERS:	Theresa Green, Berrien County Health Department Mark Hesemann, Evergreen Management / Harbor Shores Mike Jones, Cycle and Fitness

ACTIVITIES:

- Held meetings at Abonmarche Office on October 14, 2009, February 24, 2010, and March 10, 2010
- Participated in SMART nine-county regional trails visioning session for Berrien County
- Created maps for TwinCATS area showing existing non-motorized facilities and non-motorized facilities that are being planned
- Came up with priority non-motorized connections that need to be implemented, and brainstormed about the feasibility of implementing them
 - Trail in old rail bed connecting St. Joseph Township near Royalton Township line to downtown St. Joseph (connect to Howard Trail)
 - Trail in old rail bed connecting Sodus Township to downtown Benton Harbor (run parallel to Pipestone Street and connect to Main Street)
 - Restripe Napier to include bike lanes from Niles Avenue in St. Joseph to Miami Road in Benton Harbor
- Reviewed the US-35 bicycle route alignment that is being proposed by Paul Vandenbosch and US-35 Southwest Michigan Committee to go through TwinCATS area along Blue Star Highway and Red Arrow Highway

NEXT STEPS:

- To approve a Public Outreach Plan
- To add more detail to maps, such as sidewalks, parking areas, etc.
- To hold a public visioning session and get input on priority connections
- To write a TwinCATS Walk & Roll Plan, to be incorporated into TwinCATS long range transportation plan (LRTP). The plan will include:
 - Existing non-motorized infrastructure
 - Problem Statement and assessment of communities' walking and "rolling" needs
 - Priority Connections that need to be made
 - Specific strategies with a timeline and who will do what to implement the projects outlined in plan
 - Potential funding sources
 - A policy of how the Walk & Roll plan will influence TwinCATS project selection in the creation of the short range plan (TIP)

NEXT MEETING: April 28, 2010 at 8:00am at Abonmarche, 95 W. Main St., Benton Harbor, MI