



DRAFT for review

May 26, 2015

Mark Mandenberg
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parks & Recreation Division
PO Box 30257
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Mandenberg:

The Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition (WBWC) has for years been a strong supporter and vocal advocate for building the Border-to-Border (B2B) Trail in Washtenaw County. As you know, through the cooperation of state, county, and local agencies, over half of this trail has now been built, and additional segments are scheduled for construction.

WBWC strongly supports the application of the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission for funding to determine the preferred alignment for the trail segment between Dexter-Huron Metropark and Ann Arbor and to prepare engineering drawings for a portion of that route so that construction can begin soon.

WBWC is grateful to the state for the visionary concept of the Iron Belle Trail. As you probably know, except for a stretch of about six miles around Belleville, one can already bicycle almost the entire way from Ann Arbor to Lake Erie on trails along and near the Huron River. The completion of the B2B Trail from Ann Arbor to Dexter, together with segments already built or in advanced planning, will make the connection almost all the way to the LakeLands Trail in Livingston County. Then this major portion of the Iron Belle Trail, from the LakeLands Trail to Lake Erie, will be nearly complete.

WBWC, with its coalition partners, represents the interests of thousands of bicyclists and walkers throughout Washtenaw County. If you have questions, please call me at 734-971-7741 or e-mail me at LDeck1@aol.com.

Sincerely,

Larry Deck, WBWC board member
On behalf of the WBWC board