SHELBYTWP.ORG APRIL 2024



## Special Report



## Shelby Township expands park, school sidewalk connectivity; improves safety

Shelby Township addresses direction from residents fulfilling connectivity, safety requests from top-10 priorities without tax increase.





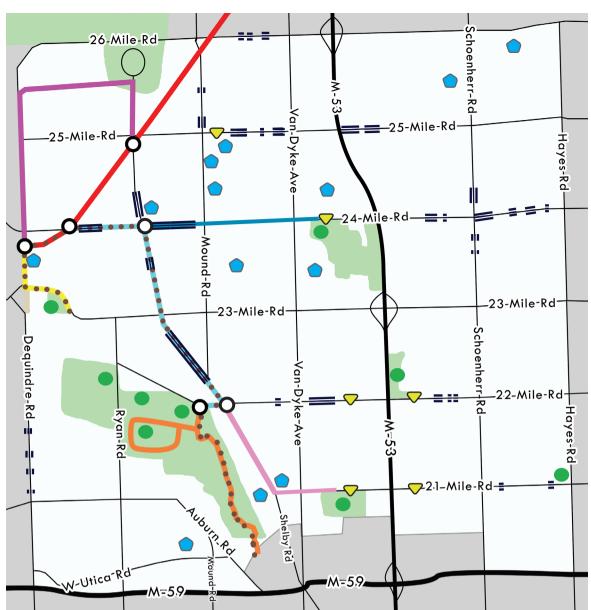


SINCE 2019, 24,620 FEET OF SIDEWALKS, ENHANCED SAFETY CROSSWALKS INSTALLED THROUGHOUT THE TOWNSHIP. PAID IN CASH - NO DEBT- NO BONDING -NO TAX INCREASE



Since 2019, the Shelby Township Sidewalk Committee built 24,620 feet of new sidewalks, connected critical trails & installed six new crosswalks paid in cash with no debt, no bonding & no increase in taxes.





SINCE 2019, SHELBY TOWNSHIP & THE SHELBY TOWNSHIP SIDEWALK COMMITTEE SECURED \$1,028,170 IN GRANTS FOR NEW SIDEWALKS & IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS TO ADDRESS REQUESTS FOR SIDEWALK CONNECTIVITY & SAFETY.



In 2019, 1,348 feet of new sidewalk on the south side of 24 Mile Road completed a 4,000-foot span connecting the Macomb Orchard Trail & Shelby Road.



In 2021, SEMCOG awarded Shelby Township a \$265,200 grant to improve pedestrian crossing & connectivity between neighborhoods, parks & schools.



Shelby Township installed crosswalks near schools in 2023, crossing 25 Mile Road near Eisenhower High School & 24 Mile Road south of Crissman Elementary.





Two crosswalks each on 21 Mile & 22 Mile roads improve connectivity for safe access to pedestrian bridges over the M-53 Expressway.

In 2019, 2,100 feet of sidewalk on the west side of Shelby Road connected Switzer Elementary School to Briar Road.

In 2019, Shelby Township reconstructed wooden wetland crossings on the Shelby Metro Bike Trail installing asphalt paths with culverts.

On the east side of Shelby Road from just north of Mound Road, 2,352 feet of new sidewak connected 1.25 miles of sidewalk between Montgomery Drive & Mound Road.



The Shelby Township Connector opened in 2021 as a local connector route on the statewide Iron Belle Trail giving 7,350 homes & 24,300 residents access to the Iron Belle Trail.

"Expand Sidewalk Connectivity" & "Improve Crosswalk Safety Near Schools & Parks" routinely rank in the top 10 annual priorities set by the residents.

A \$268,169 grant helped fund a bridge over the Lawson Drain on the north side of 25 Mile Road to link homes north of 25 Mile Road to Malow Junior High & Eisenhower High School.



## Township Trustee Lisa Casali Shelby Township Sidewalk Committee

52700 Van Dyke Ave. Shelby Township, MI 48316

www.shelbytwp.org
Phone: 586-731-5102

Township funds used

Re: Creating a connected, safer, walkable and more enjoyable Shelby Township

Dear Shelby Township Neighbors,

As a 36-year resident of Shelby Township, I understand the need for sidewalk connectivity and improved pedestrian safety in our community.

My husband Frank and I raised our three children here and on many summer days we wished for sidewalks so the kids could walk or ride their bikes to the corner plaza to visit Dairy Queen, Little Ceasars and CVS. And now, as an avid cyclist, parent and grandparent, I continue to know how frustrating it can be to encounter areas where we do not feel safe traveling.

In 2019 upon my appointment and followed by my 2020 election to the Shelby Township Board of Trustees, I realized my passion could be directed to the Sidewalk Committee to ultimately help our community become more pedestrian friendly and safe. The Sidewalk Committee is comprised of John Kocis, Lloyd Rogers, William Hohnstadt and Joe Gorak, a great group of dedicated volunteers, who work with our township engineer Aseel Putros. Together we have sought input from our community through surveys and the township visioning processes, and we know a top priority for our community is to improve pedestrian safety near our parks and schools.

We have many accomplishments over the past five years including the installation of more than 4.5 miles of sidewalk throughout the township, the installation of six new rapid flashing beacon crosswalks and the installation of the 25 Mile Road Pedestrian bridge to be completed this summer. We also introduced the Shelby Township Connector which serves as a local route on the statewide Iron Belle Trail. This pathway gives 4,500 homes and 15,000 residents pedestrian access to River Bends Park and the Iron Belle Trail starting from their own front door.

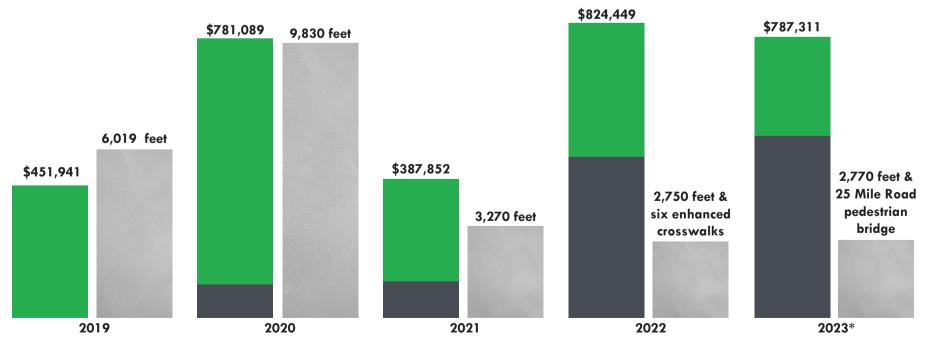
The Shelby Township Board of Trustees committed to make our township safer for pedestrians, and I am extremely proud to help lead the effort. We are not done yet, but our progress is evident by the number of people safely traveling in and around our township. It's truly inspiring!

Sincerely, Township Trustee Lisa Casali Shelby Township Board of Trustees Shelby Township Sidewalk Committee

Feet of new siewalk

Rick Stathakis Stanley T. Grot James Carabelli Lisa Casali Lucia Di Cicco John Vermeulen Vince Viviano Supervisor Clerk Treasurer Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee

UTILIZING STATE & FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS, THE SHELBY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES & THE SHELBY TOWNSHIP SIDEWALK COMMITTEE CONSTRUCTED 24,620 FEET OF NEW SIDEWALKS, CONNECTED CRITICAL TRAILS & INSTALLED SIX NEW CROSSWALKS WITHOUT INCREASING THE LOCAL MILLAGE RATE. IN 2022 AND 2023 ALONE, SHELBY TOWNSHIP USED MORE THAN \$500,000 IN GRANTS FOR CROSSWALK AND PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS.



Shelby Township investment is sidewalk construction & connectivity paid in cash with no debt, no bondng & no tax increase.

\* Includes engineering design cost only, construction has not started on 2023 sidewalks. Therefore, new sidewalk length is planned & construction cost is not included.

Grant funds used



Find your path

Explore Shelby Township's picturesque trails at shelbytwp.org/trails.

Discover a network of serene paths winding through lush forests and tranquil meadows. From leisurely strolls to invigorating hikes, these trails offer something for every nature enthusiast.

Embrace the outdoors and experience the beauty of Shelby Township's landscapes firsthand.

explore Shelby Township's official website at shelbytwp.org/trails. There, they can access interactive maps showcasing the township's diverse trail offerings, view the SEMCOG Trail Explorer and see the state's Iron Belle Trail system. Additionally, maps for Shelby Township parks, the Wilcox Warnes Nature Sanctuary and trails at Stony Creek Metropark are available

With these resources at hand, adventurers can embark on unforgettable outdoor experiences amidst Shelby Township's scenic landscapes.

for exploration and planning.

Shelby Township boasts acres of pristine public parks and direct access to the scenic Clinton River. However, perhaps its most outstanding recreation feature lies in its interconnected sidewalk and trail system, offering seamless access to 1,300 acres of parks and 12 Utica Community Schools from residents' front doors.

Within the township's 18.11 miles of hiking and biking trails is the westernmost stretch of the renowned Macomb Orchard Trail, which stretches from the township's border with Rochester and meanders all the way to downtown Richmond.

Shelby Township is a pivotal link in the Macomb County 70-mile trail loop and serves as a crucial point along the statewide Iron Belle bike trail, facilitating a connection from the City of Detroit to the western edge of the Upper Peninsula.

Whether craving a serene "up-north" hike or seeking the familiarity of Michigan Department of Transportation standard asphalt bike paths, Shelby Township caters to all recreational needs.

For detailed features such as interactive parks and trail maps, visitors are encouraged to

