



HURON WATERLOO PATHWAYS INITIATIVE

2020 YEAR-END REPORT

FROM OUR CHAIR

To Our Trail Supporters,

In a year that certainly will be remembered with some trepidation across the country, I am delighted and humbled to be able to address the supporters of the Border-to-Border Regional Trail System with a very positive and exciting year-end report. While much of the world was brought to a standstill, the incredible support HWPI has received from the greater Washtenaw County area has fueled an amazing burst of B2B construction. As a result, we have enjoyed expanding access to safe multi-use pathways and enhanced our ability to get outside, enjoy the fresh Michigan air, and exercise safely.

Our mission to facilitate the rapid development of non-motorized pathways across Washtenaw County has remained constant since our organization was founded in 2014. As we bring 2020 to a close, we are approaching a major milestone. By next summer, we will have **completed over 50%** of the trail construction needed to connect the B2B across the county. This milestone would not be possible without the incredible support of our dedicated trail users and supporters like you. While we still have plenty of work to do, the entire HWPI team is energized to sustain the momentum and complete the project over the next three to four years.

Our objective with this report is to summarize what has been accomplished to date and to detail the various new trail segments and features in the development pipeline. I hope you enjoy the report and, as always, would welcome any feedback or questions. Thank you again for being a dedicated supporter of the Border-to-Border Trail and Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative. I look forward to connecting with you all in the year ahead. Enjoy the trails!

Sincerely,



Jeff Hardcastle
Board Chair
Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative



Board Chair Jeff Hardcastle bikes the trails

ABOUT US

Our mission is to facilitate the development of non-motorized recreational pathways, and to connect the Border-to-Border Trail to Michigan's expanding network of trails. Our goal is to engage all members of the community to use the trails, which helps to create healthy, active, and connected communities.

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

To give by mail:

Please make checks payable to:
Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative
14800 E. Old HWY 12
Chelsea, MI 48118

To give online visit:

huron-waterloo-pathways.org/donate

To give via text:

Text "GiveB2B" to 44321
and follow the prompts

Subscribe to our Newsletter

Text "HWPI" to 66866 or
visit us online at
huron-waterloo-pathways.org/contact

2020 PROGRESS



CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING

5.06 MILES OF TRAIL COMPLETED

ACROSS WASHTENAW COUNTY, FROM LYNDON TOWNSHIP TO YPSILANTI.

FIRST B2B TUNNEL CONSTRUCTED

PROVIDING SAFE PASSAGE BETWEEN THE WATERLOO AND PINCKNEY RECREATION AREAS. TUNNEL FEATURES CORTEN STEEL PANELS HIGHLIGHTING THE TOPOGRAPHY OF THE AREA.

FIRST DEDICATED B2B TRAILHEAD OPENED

WITH 50 PARKING SPACES, RESTROOMS, POLLINATOR GARDEN, PICNIC TABLES AND OTHER AMENITIES.

REACHED THE FIRST BORDER OF THE B2B

CONNECTED THE WASHTENAW B2B TRAIL TO WAYNE COUNTY.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC AWARENESS



5,400 SOCIAL
MEDIA FOLLOWERS



3,000 ON-LINE
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS



FINANCIAL REPORT

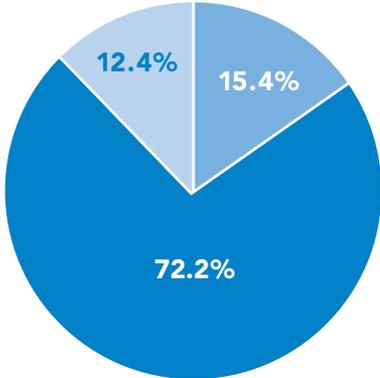


90¢ of each dollar goes directly to build the B2B

It has been a successful financial year for HWPI thanks to the generous commitments made by donors in the months before the COVID-19 pandemic. HWPI suspended the 2020 Ann Arbor Legacy Campaign in March in light of the challenging times. We anticipate resuming major fundraising activities in the spring of 2021. All 2020 gifts, pledges and grants totaled \$1,246,287 through September 30, 2020, while expenses and construction spending totaled \$1,878,499 for the same period. HWPI expects to end its fiscal year on December 31, 2020 with approximately \$1,050,000 in cash and \$1,200,000 in pledges receivable. HWPI also successfully completed its first formal audit as an independent non-profit covering the year ending December 31, 2019.

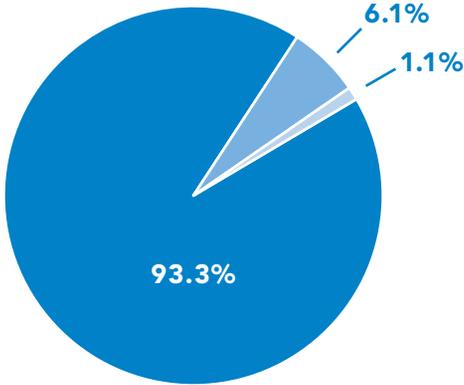
REVENUE AND SUPPORT

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| ■ Contributions..... | \$191,982 |
| ■ Pledges..... | \$900,000 |
| ■ Grants..... | \$154,305 |
| Total Revenue and Support | \$1,246,287 |



EXPENSES

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Program Expenses..... | \$1,743,023 |
| – Construction | \$1,424,524 |
| – Engineering | \$259,784 |
| – Community Outreach..... | \$58,715 |
| ■ Management & General..... | \$115,133 |
| ■ Fundraising..... | \$20,343 |
| Total Expenses..... | \$1,878,499 |





*Cyclist on the
Dexter-Chelsea
Trail*



The Fredenberg family makes good use of the trails near their home in Chelsea.

STORIES FROM THE TRAIL

Family of 12 Uses B2B for Safe Commuting & Staying Active

Not far from the new Border-to-Border (B2B) trailhead on North Territorial Road in Chelsea lives the Fredenberg family: Alison, Paul and their ten children ages 3 to 23. Each member of this big family takes advantage of the B2B trail in some way. Some commute to work, a few break out the scooters and rollerblades, and the newest member of the Fredenberg family gets some much needed socialization.

Commuting to work using the B2B trail is just one of the many perks of having a safe and accessible trail near them. Paul uses a segment of the B2B trail that connects the area he calls home to Werkner Road north of Chelsea, where his office is located. “It is a great way to relax and unwind after being in front of a computer all day,” says Paul. In the future, the route Paul uses will connect the Stockbridge community to the downtown Chelsea area.

The Fredenberg teenagers also use the trail segment along M-52 to commute to their jobs. Alison likes having the B2B trail as a commuting option for her kids because she doesn’t allow them to ride along Waterloo Road. She finds the road unsafe, especially for inexperienced bikers.

After the workday is done, the entire Fredenberg family hits the trail for fun and exercise. Since the family started to use the B2B trails, the amount that they are active has significantly increased. Thanks to the ease of



access and safety of the trail, the whole family can join in on the excitement. The Fredenbergs have even set a goal to complete 1,000 miles of exercise as a family during the month of October, with many of those miles being completed on the B2B!

“We have all levels of fitness in our family and because the trail is so safe, we can go at our own pace without worrying about children getting lost,” says Alison. “I am easing my youngest out of a stroller and bike trailer and really encouraging her to balance on her own bike. The trail has been a great place to do that without worrying about traffic.”

Even the Fredenberg puppy gets to use the B2B! “We have a new puppy that needed extra socialization during the pandemic. The trail was a

great place to take him for training around other dogs and people,” says Allison.

All the family fun on the trails has even led to a new trail tradition that started on a bike trip through the new tunnel that passes under M-52 in Lyndon Township. “One of my favorite times on the trail was the first time my family biked through the tunnel. We all spontaneously started singing. Now that is the tradition, we all sing while going through the tunnel!”

The Fredenbergs also use the B2B trail to stay connected with their community. “We live in a very rural setting, so we don’t get to interact with our neighbors as most people do. When we are on the trail, we meet new people that live around us. You start to get familiar with the faces and other dogs,” says Alison. The outdoors and trails were essential this year for many families. Alison added, “When we were not able to host friends for play dates we met at the trail and the kids enjoyed biking and scootering together.”

The best part, says Alison, is the safety of the trail and how it helps preserve the local natural beauty.

Whether they are heading to work, meeting a new neighbor or riding a bike for the first time, the Fredenberg family truly shows us how important trails are in connecting us to the community around us and to each other. 🚲

GIVING BACK

Helping to Pave Access to the Outdoors

John Mann, a longtime resident of Chelsea, has been using what is now the Border-to-Border (B2B) trail since his childhood. An avid lover of the outdoors and adventure, John spent countless hours of his childhood wandering in the woods. “I always loved to explore,” John said. He recalls a time that he and a friend rented cross country skis and explored countless unmarked trails from dawn until dusk. This led to a passion for cross country skiing and he skied extensively throughout the Waterloo and Pinckney Recreation Areas in the 70s and 80s.

As Chief Executive Officer at Chelsea State Bank for the past 27 years, John Mann is no stranger to projects that support the City of Chelsea. It is not a surprise to hear that when Jeff Hardcastle, HWPI Board Chair, approached him in 2014 about a project to complete the 40-mile loop of the Border-to-Border Trail, he jumped right in. “We were one of the first organizations to get on board and support the project, and I am so proud to have helped with the fundraising and encouraging others in the community to get involved in this amazing project.”

John’s dedication to the B2B stems from his diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis (MS). He shared that the trails mean everything to him. “I was blindsided by MS in 1990, and it changed my life. It slowed me down, but it did not stop me. While I can no longer ski or hike, because the trails are paved, I can still go out and have access to the



outdoors, which is everything to me. I love the fact that these trails provide opportunities for people like me to get outside and enjoy nature.”

Anne, John’s wife, is also an active trail user. Once an avid cyclist, she had taken a step back from cycling due to safety concerns along the road. However, when the trail was developed throughout the area, it allowed her to get back on her bike. “I used to ride my bike frequently but stopped because I did not feel safe on the roads. I

let my tires go flat. However, after this new stretch of trail was created I asked John for a new bike. He bought me one of the last bikes at Aberdeen Bike Shop for my birthday. Since June I have been out riding or walking on the trails almost every day. I get to spend time with my family, and it is nice to ride without worrying about traffic. It has been a game-changer for my family and me.”

John and Anne are looking forward to the completion of the B2B across Washtenaw County. “There are always so many people out on the trail, but once complete, the B2B will motivate more people to get out and enjoy the access to outdoors,” says Anne. Anne and John are thrilled that so many individuals and businesses in Chelsea and across the county support HWPI and the goal to complete the B2B. “The trail encourages people to get outdoors, and what better thing can you have? Just getting outside, moving their bodies, and enjoying the outdoors improves the quality of life for users in the community. Supporting the completion of the trail will open up more opportunities for people like me to get outside and enjoy the outdoors,” says John.

HWPI is thankful to John and Anne, and Chelsea State Bank for their ongoing support of the Border-to-Border Trail. We are lucky to have supporters like the Manns who are dedicated to seeing this project completed and improving lives across Washtenaw County. 

*Trail user enjoying
the fall foliage on the
trail between Dexter
and Hudson Mills
Metropark*



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

2020 COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION

Chelsea-Stockbridge Connection 1

2.1 mile trail segment beginning at the Green Lake Campground, extending to North Territorial Road.

Dedicated **B2B Trailhead** near the intersection of North Territorial Road and M-52, adjacent to the Lyndon Township Hall. Includes 50 parking spaces, bathrooms, picnic tables and other amenities.

M-52 Tunnel located adjacent to Green Lake connecting the Waterloo and Pinckney Recreation Areas.

Dexter-Ann Arbor Connection 2

Dexter-Huron Metropark to Zeeb Road, **1.1 mile** segment which includes two new bridges over the Huron River.

0.8 mile segment traversing the Delhi Metropark along the Huron River.

Ypsilanti 3

Frog Island Park, Forest Avenue to Cross Street, reconstruction of a **0.25 mile** segment of the 30+ year-old trail along the Huron River.

Grove Road, Water Street trail to I-94, replacement of **0.45 miles** of an old narrow sidewalk with a 8-10' wide concrete pathway.

Grove Road, North Hydro Park to Wayne County Border, includes two construction segments in the same area totaling **0.36 miles**, connecting North Hydro Park to neighborhoods, Grove Road, and Rawsonville Elementary School.

2020 RECAP 8 PROJECTS / 5.06 MILES / A TUNNEL / NEW TRAILHEAD

2021/2022 TRAIL DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Chelsea-Stockbridge Connection 4

3.0 mile segment from North Territorial to the Jackson County border.

Chelsea Connection 5

1.1 mile segment from Werkner Road to Timbertown and Veteran's Park, completing the connection into Chelsea.

Dexter-Chelsea 6

Extension of the current trail along Dexter-Chelsea Road.

Dexter-Ann Arbor Connection 7

1 mile segment from Zeeb Road to Delhi Metropark, including the fourth new bridge over the Huron River.

1.1 mile segment connecting Delhi Metropark to Wagner Road including the fifth new bridge. Final design, permitting and funding activities.

Ann Arbor 8

0.6 mile segment traversing the Barton Nature Area in Ann Arbor which will connect to the future Bandemer Park Tunnel, linking to the Barton Nature Area.

Bandemer Park Tunnel, continued construction engineering, permitting and fundraising for this effort.

Ypsilanti 9

Riverside Park, 0.5 mile segment reconstruction of this 30+ year-old trail with an 8-10' wide trail.

Grove Road, I-94 overpass improvements. Final design and permitting.

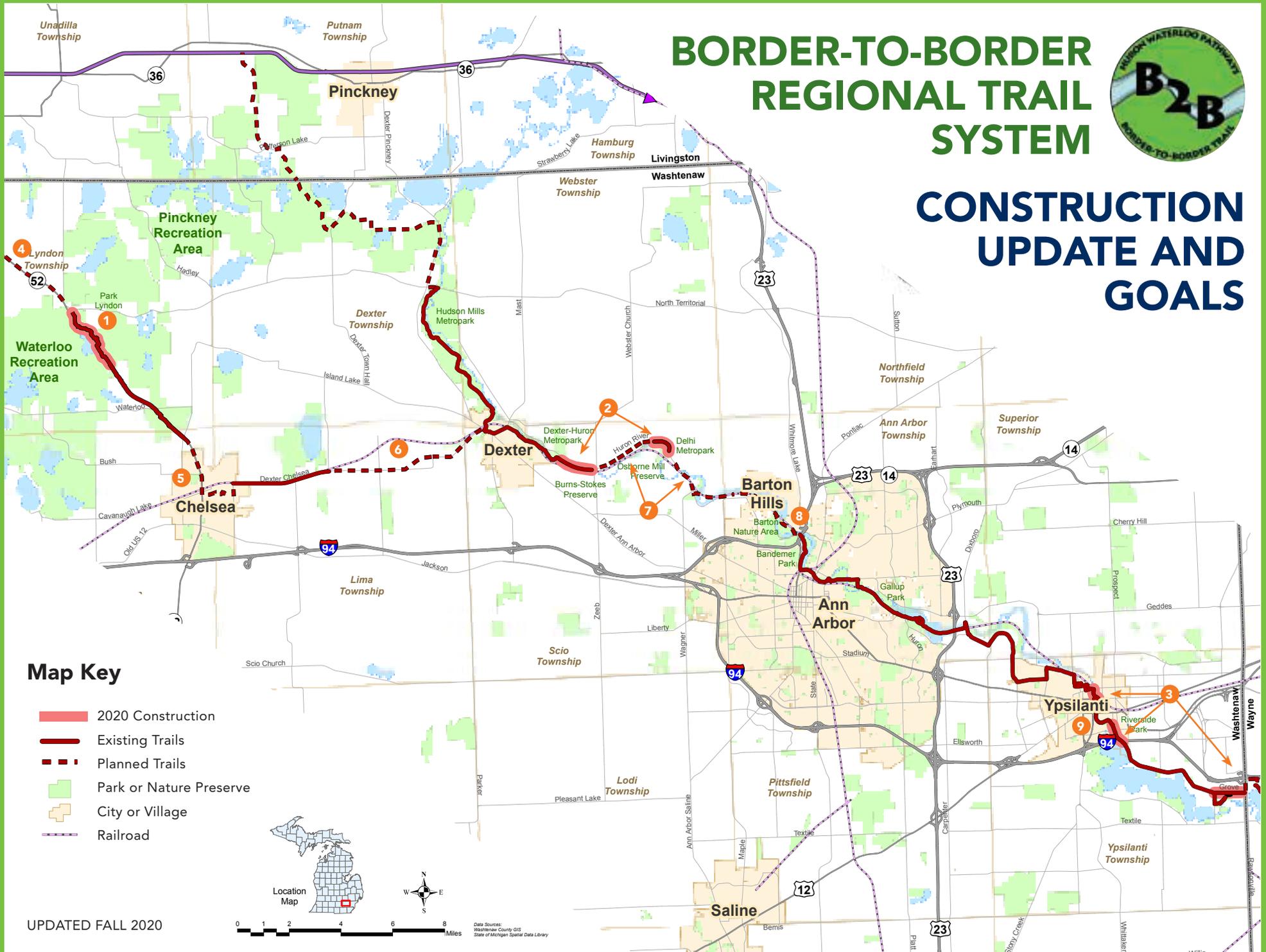
Wayfinding

Installation will begin on a county-wide system of wayfinding kiosks, signs, maps and trail information across the B2B trail system.

BORDER-TO-BORDER REGIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE AND GOALS



Map Key

- 2020 Construction
- Existing Trails
- - - Planned Trails
- Park or Nature Preserve
- City or Village
- Railroad



UPDATED FALL 2020



Data Sources:
Washtenaw County GIS
State of Michigan Spatial Data Library

2019-2020 MAJOR DONORS

Founder: \$1 Million +

Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation
Wilbert J. and Virginia M. McKeachie

Visionary: \$500,000 - \$999,999

Tim and Laurie Wadhams

Ambassador: \$250,000 - \$499,999

Lew Kidder
St. Joseph Mercy Health System
The Feeney Family
Thomas Bloom and Beth Trollman

Leader: \$100,000-\$249,999

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"JIFFY" mixes
Steve and Judy Dobson
The Weiser Family
Vintage Financial Services

Steward: \$50,000- \$99,999

Chelsea State Bank
Irene Fast
Jeff and Anne Kittendorf
Linda (McKeachie) Dicks
Tom and Debbie McMullen
Towsley Foundation
William C. and Rosella E. Bauman

Heritage: \$25,000- \$49,999

Ann Arbor Area Convention
& Visitors Bureau
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Chelsea Lumber Company
Edward Jones

Elizabeth and Brian Burt
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Old National Bank
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Running Fit Events
St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea
The Common Grill
The Dave and Louise Lutton Fund of the
Ann Arbor Community Foundation
The Emrick Investment Group
of Wells Fargo Advisors
Thomas Buhr

Champion: \$15,000- \$24,999

Anonymous
Bank of Ann Arbor
Friends of the Border To Border Trail
Frutig Farms
Howard Holmes
John Pierce
Klaus and Deb Wolter
Vanston O'Brien

Trailblazer: \$7,500- \$14,999

Allan Newman and Roddy Wares
Ann and Thomas Hunt
Ann Arbor Bicycle and
Touring Society

Ann Arbor Track Club
Chelsea Rotary
David and Alisande Read
Green Tree Pediatrics
Heydlauff's Appliances
In Memory of Richard W. Skeeane
Integrated Health Associates
Jeff and Dawn Williams
John and Anne Mann
Reinhart Realtors
Sheila and Creg Carpenter
Staffan- Mitchell Funeral Home
Tim and Mary Jane Eder
Trystyn Welsh Springers
UMRC Foundation

Pioneer: \$5,000- \$7,499

Aaron and Michelle Crumm
Ann Arbor Track Club
Charles and Lynne Stanich
Chuck and Rose Manitz
Doors and Drawers
Esther Floyd
Hopp Electric, Inc.
Howard and Luanne Booth
in honor of the
Dexter Concert Band
Jeff and Deb Hardcastle
Katherine Larson
Mark and Jennifer Pinto
Martha Grimes
Martin Family Foundation
Miles Colwell and Lynn Driver
Rebecca Horvath
Robert Knox
Susan and Erial Faulkner

Pathfinder: \$2,500- \$4,999

Alford Family
Alison Pollard and Joe Tinsley
Ann Arbor Velo Club
Bart and Maribeth Hammer
Carolyn and Macdonald Dick
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James Lee
Jeff Hall
Jim and Andrea Alford
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Maria Serras
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Megan McCall and Patrick Muldoon
Michael Fitzsimmons
and Hope Haefner
Mike and Wendy Jurosek
Ray and Micky Howe
Robert and Connie Pulcifer
Thomas Higgins

HWPI would like to extend our sincere thanks to the 5 Healthy Towns Foundation, Elizabeth Floyd, The Meijer Foundation and the thousands of other individuals and businesses who support building the B2B. Major donors are listed here and reflect gifts received by October 31, 2020.