

# Time for city to work with Friends

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To the editor,

As a longtime cyclist, Saugatuck city resident and Friends of the Blue Star Trail board member, I want to weigh in on the Blue Star Trail.

Trail systems like the Blue Star Trail have gained wide acceptance and support in west Michigan, statewide and throughout this country for the simple reason that logical community leaders fully understand the benefits such paths offer to their communities. The construction of non-motorized trail systems in the past 10 years has escalated with the support of local, state and federal governments.

We need the Saugatuck City Council to work with the Friends and find a solution to this “controversial” 3,000-foot stretch proposed through the city limits.

The solution shouldn't be difficult. With available state grants and benevolent citizens donating real monies, expense is a non-issue now and into the foreseeable future. Plus, completion of the trail will improve safety at the difficult Lake Street-Blue Star Highway intersection.

I strongly encourage the Saugatuck City Council to work with the Friends group and solve this issue.

John K. Ludlow, M.D.

Saugatuck