

March 5, 2018

To Whom it May Concern:

It is with great enthusiasm that the City of Holland's Park and Recreation Department can express our support of the Blue Star Trailway TAP Grant Application.

This new connector will provide residents of the area and visitors alike the ability to travel on non-motorized pathways from the Saugatuck-Douglas area, all the way to Lake Macatawa in Holland.

In the City of Holland, we have not only seen the physical benefits (healthy living, exercise) that biking and walking provide on these types of trails, but huge economical ones as well. In a study done by the Michigan Department of Transportation in 2014, it was estimated that bicycling had a \$6.4 million dollar impact on the local economy. This figure included not only the purchases of bike equipment, but employees using bikes to get to and from work, using bikes for leisure, or going on vacations that included traveling along bicycle trailways. We believe that this type of benefit could be increased in the West Michigan area as a whole with the addition of the proposed trailway.

I thank you for your consideration with this proposal and look forward to being able to ride my bike to the Saugatuck area in the near future!



Andy Kenyon

City of Holland
Parks and Recreation Director
429 East 24th Street
Holland, Mi. 49423
616.928.2450