

Kalamazoo Region Bike Route Committee (KRBRC)
July 29, 2025 Meeting Notes
City of Kalamazoo

Please report corrections to Paul Selden.

Participants

Dave Goldenberg – Bike Friendly Kalamazoo
Bill Greer – Calhoun County Trails
Dennis Randolph – City of Kalamazoo
Paul Selden – Bike Friendly Kalamazoo
Dick Skalski – City of Kalamazoo (retired)

Next KRBRC Meeting: October 28, 2025; 11am-noon; location TBD (in person)

Goal

Change previously published Southwest Michigan Bikeway (SWMB) regional bike routes as needed to conform to City of Kalamazoo's updated streets plan.

Agenda

- Review current routing of the Southwest Michigan Bikeway (SWMB) regional bike routes within the City of Kalamazoo.
- Compare with City's updated streets plan to extent currently known.
- Discuss and confirm changes in SWMB routing to extent possible.

Reminder: Please contact Ali Townsend or Megan Mickelson of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study about how to current and proposed routes.

Review Questions About Jurisdiction Answered at Meeting on April 22

WMU would like to terminate the route between the City of Kalamazoo and its Parkview Campus on Parkview Avenue at S. Drake Road / Parkview, vs. in front of the Engineering Building on Campus Drive. Whose jurisdiction is the Drake/Parkview intersection? Answer: City of Kalamazoo

Worksheet – The conclusions reached during this meeting are presented in the context of the worksheet on the following three pages. See page 4 for a summary of these conclusions.

Additional Resources

- KATS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan: <https://katsmpo.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/mtp-approved-11-17-2021.pdf>
- Southwest Michigan Bikeway Web Page: <https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/sw-mi-bikeway/>
- Southwest Michigan Non-Motorized Transportation Plan: https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/2020_southwest_region_nonmotorized_plan_final.pdf
- Bike Friendly Kalamazoo maintains resources concerning bike routing on various pages on its web site at <https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org> and a web page dedicated to resources concerning the Southwest Michigan Bikeway at <https://bikefriendlykalamazoo.org/sw-mi-bikeway/> as a public service.

Thank you to Dennis Randolph for facilitating resources for our meeting!

Worksheet: Southwest Michigan Bikeway (SWMB) Within The City of Kalamazoo

Introduction

Today's meeting will limit its scope to what we can make meaningful progress on, in an hour. Therefore, the focus of today's meeting will be on the Interjurisdictional nodes and routes that: a) put together, create "loops" within the city; and, b) to which adjacent municipalities can easily connect.

Item One

Review previous combined SWMB intra-jurisdictional routing within the City of Kalamazoo.

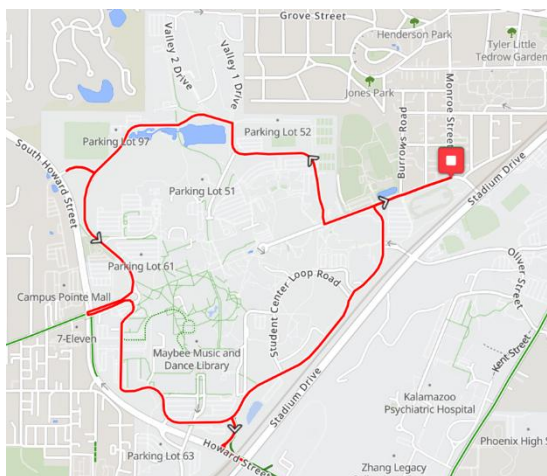
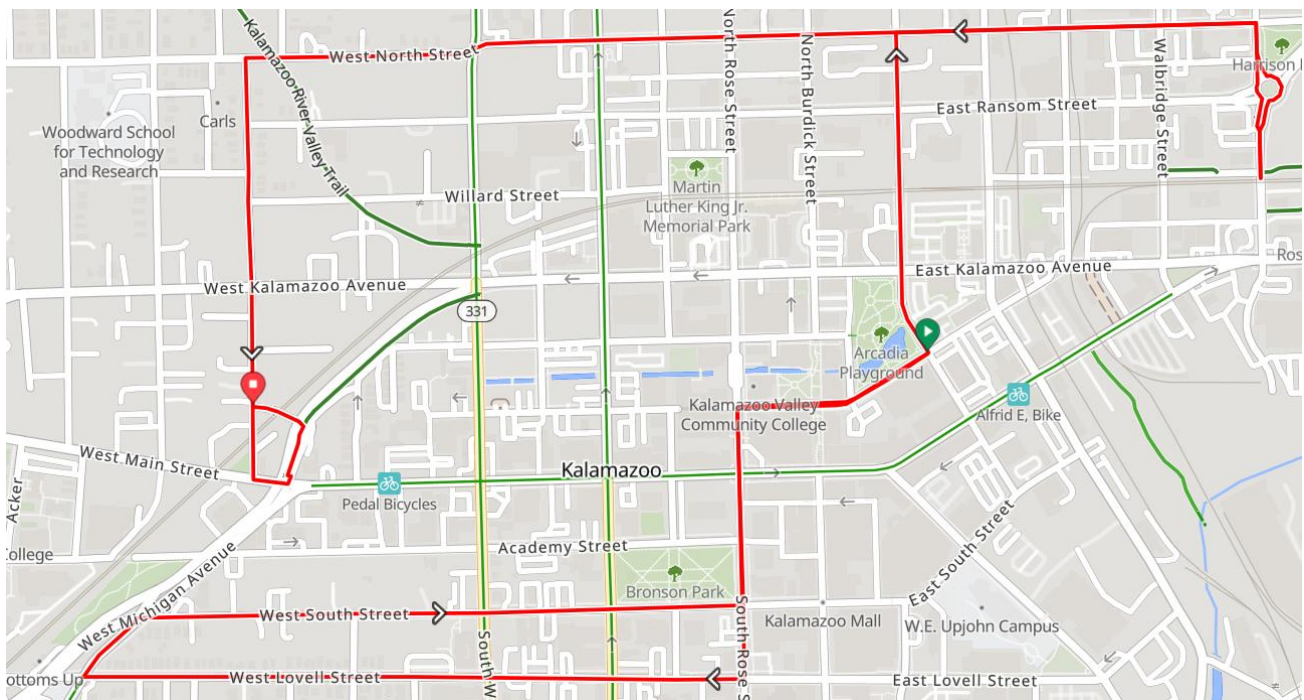
Comments:

The stretch from Edwards/Water to North St is part of the route to/from Parchment.

The stretch on North/Edwards to Willard/Harrison links the SWMB to the KRVt.

The lack of a link from West Main and Elm to the southernmost intra-jurisdictional loop (South/Lovell) was understood at the time; the intention was to close the gap in the future.

Combined SWMB Intra-jurisdictional N-S-E-W Routes



WMU Route termini within the City:

W. Michigan / WMU (east jurisdiction line)

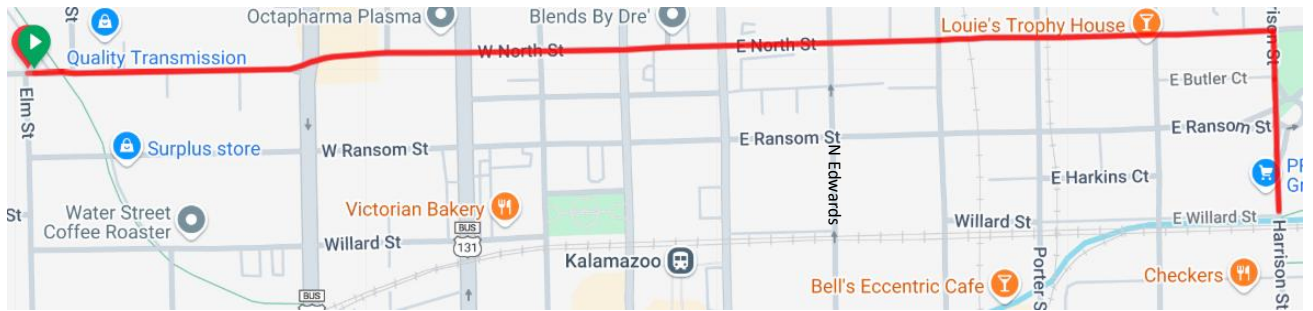
W. Michigan / WMU at Howard St

Howard St / Ring Rd S

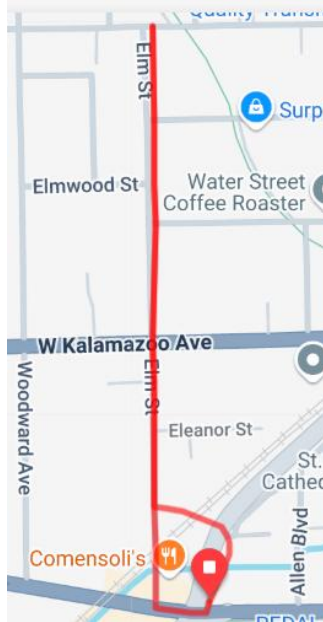
Howard St / Ring Rd N

Select details follow on the next page.

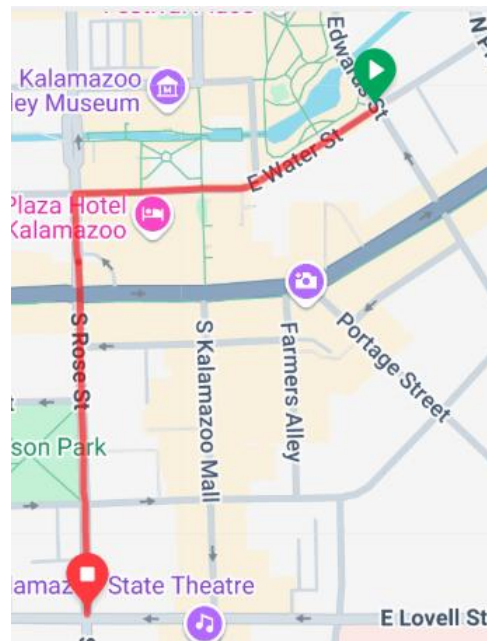
Kalamazoo Intra-Jurisdictional Node Connector-N



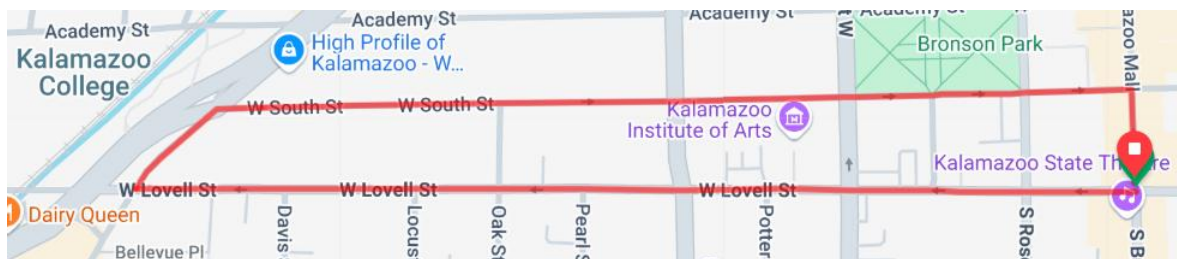
Kalamazoo Intra-Jurisdictional Node Connector-E



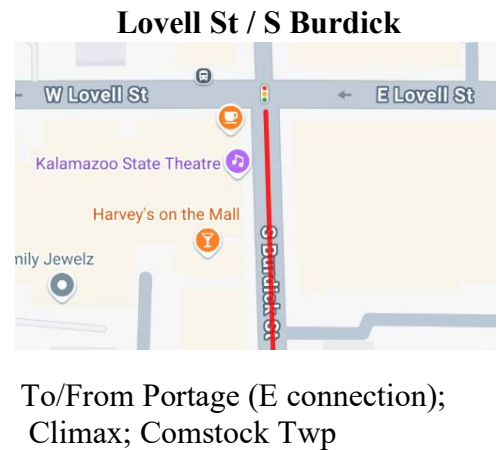
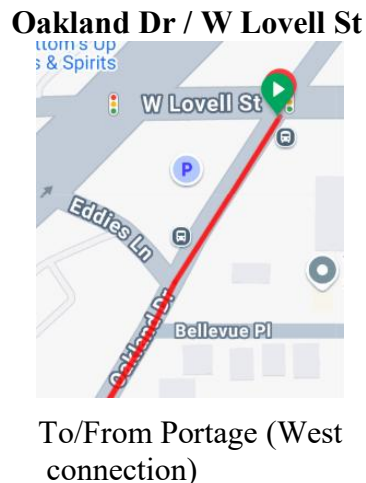
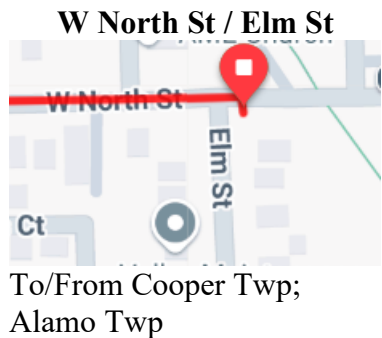
Kalamazoo Intra-Jurisdictional Node Connector-W



Kalamazoo Intra-Jurisdictional Node Connector-S



Examples of route termini to/from adjacent municipalities within the City of Kalamazoo:



As shown above, Kalamazoo's connections to other municipalities are via the following:

Alamo – at North /Elm;

Climax – at Lovell/Burdick;

Comstock Twp – at Lovell/Burdick; Cooper Twp – at North/Elm;

Parchment – at Edwards/Water (stretch between this node and North connects Kalamazoo's East and North Intra-Jurisdictional Node Connectors);

Portage – Oakland/Lovell-Academy (West Connection) & Lovell/Burdick (East Connection)

Summary of Answers to Questions Raised During This Meeting

The following general observations were made by Dennis Randolph, Public Works Manager for the City of Kalamazoo.

1. Comparing the current routing of the SWMB to the City's new street plans, how should the (intra-jurisdictional) route termini and intra-jurisdictional routes be changed, if at all? Please note below, and/or on maps above, and/or on handouts.
 - Routes in the central city remain to be finalized as the current one-way traffic configurations are changed to two-way.
 - The city intends to close the gap that currently exists between the southern end of Elm Street/Elm Place and West Lovell Street. How the gap will be closed remains to be determined.
 - The city intends to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle traffic between Kalamazoo College, Western Michigan University, and Kalamazoo's downtown, including the new Kalamazoo Event Center arena/sports complex.
 - Roundabout configurations are being considered in the stretch in the area of the complex intersections along West Michigan Avenue/Stadium Drive, bounded roughly by the stretch between West Lovell Street and Academy Street. Reconfiguration in this general area will also likely affect the connections to Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan University and the city center.
2. Will routes to/from connecting municipalities (see above) change or stay the same?
 - The connecting nodes to other municipalities will most likely remain the same as described above. The implication is that for now, the related SWMB routes can remain the same, as well.