Kalamazoo Region Bike Route Committee (KRBRC)
October 20, 2026 Meeting Notes
Meeting held at Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Please report corrections to Paul Selden, Chair

Welcome and Roll Call: Participants & Affiliations
Travis Bartholemew, Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Andy Davis, Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Dave Goldenberg, Bike Friendly Kalamazoo
Jim Ledden, Bike Friendly Kalamazoo
Paul Selden, Bike Friendly Kalamazoo
Larry Stehouwer, Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

The Chair welcomed and thanked everyone for their participation, and gave special thanks to the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County for hosting the meeting at their offices.

Next KRBRC Meeting: January 12, 2027; 11am-noon; location TBA. Agenda: continue review of potential bike route signage for the Southwest Michigan Bikeway.

Meeting Goal
Review and discuss example of D11-1c bike route sign in regional networks such as the Southwest Michigan Bikeway.

Discussion was intended to serve as an introduction to the D11-1c. It was noted that a full consideration of Part 9 of the MMUTCD, other pertinent sections of the MMUTCD and other relevant materials, would be beyond the scope of this meeting.

Agenda
1. Review rationale for considering the use of alternatives to KRBRC's previously recommended M1-8a primary sign in light of the revised Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD).
2. Review example of a D11-1c primary guide sign.
3. Discuss perspectives re. logistics, pros and cons of using the D11-1c in the SWMB regional route system.

1. Rationale For Considering Alternatives

The previously recommended M1-8a (see below) is only to be used for routes that are numbered. The text "Southwest Michigan Bikeway" is therefore not available for use on the signage previously recommended by the KRBRC.

In the past, it was noted that the M1-8a sign had been recommended for consideration and approved for use to sign the Southwest Michigan Bikeway, by MDOT. For reference, see this link to 2025 MMUTCD and changes to the 2025 MMUTCD:
https://mdotjboss.state.mi.us/TSSD/getSubCategoryDocuments.htm?prjNumber=2682785&category=MMUTCD&subCategory=2025%20MMUTCD&subCategoryIndex=subcat2MMUTCD&categoryPrjNumbers=3013114,1403854,2682785,1403855,3013113



Illustration of previously recommended primary M1-8a guide sign

2. Review Example of D11-1c Primary Guide Sign

The example illustrated below had been preferred by the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County and was installed on a number of segments of the Southwest Michigan Bikeway in the past.



Illustration of D11-1c primary guide sign; 24'w x 18"h on- or off-roadway

3. Discuss Perspectives re. Logistics, Pros and Cons of Using the D11-1c in the SWMB regional route system

Participants used sticky notes to record their input per the directions provided. They were informed that there was no capacity to record meeting notes apart from what they wrote on the sticky notes. Participants were asked to brainstorm, and discussed:

a) logistic considerations;
b) pros for using the D11-1c; and,
c) cons

for using the D11-1c.

The following is as close to a verbatim transcription as possible, with little or no editing to correct for grammar, spelling, etc. Where not labeled, an attempt was made to place them in their most likely category. Further clustering of similar items could be performed in the future.

3a) Logistical Considerations

- What is the sign trying to communicate?
- Who is the audience?
- Latitude in colors to introduce new signs?
- How fund it?
- Are we looking between county and state?
- Sign should include destination pointer
- How will D11-1c signs be used?
- One for one replacement of existing D11-a signs around the county?
- Will sign replacement of existing signs be necessary?
- May be possible to judiciously supplement existing D11-1 "Bike Route" signs with D11-1c – may be ideal
- Who is going to establish bike routes: different routes in cities/county? KATS footprint?
- Map? RCKC, KATS, City of Kalamazoo, City of Portage, Other? Electronic format?
- Would RCKC be involved with creating bike routes around the county
- Possibly using the RCKC non-motorized routes map

3b) Pros

- RCKC had previously installed this specific sign
- D11-1c – existing sign in RCKC inventory
- Consolidate language?
- Safety consideration!
- Safety – route awareness by drivers
- Many of the routes already existed in RCKC's iterations of routes
- Recognition of network
- Size = visible
- Clear "Bike" symbol
- Tourist recognition
- RCKC signs many bike routes already that may overlap KRBRC's
- Process for adding to routes exists

3c) Cons

- Not a specific distance
- Information without context or destination
- What is sign communicating? Specific route? General route?
- What is appropriate text
- Confusing (vs. generic)
- Permission (municipalities) (use of ROW)
- "Do no harm to anything smaller"

<u>Other</u>

- What purpose does the D11-1c serve versus the D11-1?

The host and participants were thanked. All will be invited to future Kalamazoo Region Bike Route Committee meetings.