



## Friends Of The Border To Border Trail

Summer 2015

[www.bordertoborder.org](http://www.bordertoborder.org)

Also on [Facebook](#)

“Timeline” Disclaimer – Please note that dates of construction are often mentioned in the news items below. It should be taken in account that these dates often change due to design changes, construction delays and other situations.

### Ypsilanti Trail Segment Construction Starts

In mid-June, Ypsilanti City Council approved construction for a new B2B bridge across the Huron River from Riverside Park, a signaled Trail crossing of Michigan Avenue and a permanent pathway along the north shore of the Huron River from Michigan Avenue to Grove Road. While the City did receive major grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission, Downtown Development Authority, Eastern Michigan University and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, the City Council weighed financial hardships and still committed its funds to the project, noting that the project will be a major plus for development in the immediate area and a real plus for recreation.

A groundbreaking was held on the project on August 20<sup>th</sup>, followed by construction starting a short amount of time later (for a news story with photos on the groundbreaking [click here](#)). On this construction, the first wave was starting work on the new Huron River bridge which will also be fully handicapped accessible. The entire project is expected to be fully complete by the late spring of 2016 with further updates on the Friends of the B2B Facebook page. <http://friendsofthebtob.wix.com/bordertoborder#!join/c1s93>

### Friends of the Border To Border Trail Board Meeting

The next Friends of the Border To Border Board of Directors meeting will be on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, at the Wheels In Motion bicycle shop ([3400 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor](#)) conference room. The public is welcome to attend. Also the Friends would like to publicly thank Wheels In Motion for their continued support by making their conference room available, even if it means having their staff stay over a little longer.

### New Friends Of The B2B Trail Webpage

Recently the Friends of the B2B Trail updated their web page with a new look. If you have not been there for a while, check it out at [www.bordertoborder.org](http://www.bordertoborder.org).

### Friends Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Border To Border Trail will have an annual membership meeting tentatively set for Tuesday, November 3, 2015, 7pm with the location to be announced. The meeting is open to the public and will have a short business meeting (i.e. election of Board members) followed by speakers, presentations and updates on the B2B Trail.

### St. Joseph Mercy Hospital B2B Spur Improved Recently

Not widely know, but in existence, is a scenic B2B limestone/gravel base spur route through the woods to the north of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital that had fallen into disrepair. Recently, however, this spur received a new layer of limestone/gravel and was also rolled down firm, where wider-sized bike tires can travel over it with no problem. The route is also great for dog walking. The spur takes you off the main B2B and after going into the woods, takes you back to the main trail. To find the two spur junctions with the main B2B at St. Joes, look for the larger B2B signs that have maps on them (one is almost right across from the main hospital entrance and the other at the near the driveway going in to “The Sanctuary At St. Joes” assisted living facility) and these will show the spur trail clearly.

### Report A B2B Problem

See a problem on the B2B that needs to be corrected, such as downed tree branches, potholes/pavement problems, directional signs missing, etc.? Please contact the Friends with a report listing the nature of the problem and the specific location. A reporting form will be up on the Friends web page ([www.bordertoborder.org](http://www.bordertoborder.org)) soon, but in the meantime, send a problem report to Bob at [wolverbob@gmail.com](mailto:wolverbob@gmail.com).

### Membership Now Available In the Friends Of The B2B Trail

Individuals, families, organizations and businesses now can support the Friends of the Border To Border Trail by becoming a member. Memberships begin at \$10/year for individual memberships (\$25 for a family membership) with those joining receiving discounts at select area bike and outdoor activity merchants. Members can also

nominate and vote for Friends of the B2B Trail Board of Directors every November. For more membership information, including a list of merchants offering discounts to Friends members, visit [www.bordertoborder.org](http://www.bordertoborder.org) and click on the "Join" link at the top of the page. And while currently the Friends is not a Federal 501(c)3 non-profit group (and hence dues are not tax-deductible), the Friends is preparing to request non-profit status from the IRS in the near future.

### **Dexter-Huron Metropark To Dexter Segment**

The latest on this very short B2B unfinished segment that goes from the current west end of the Dexter-Huron Metropark path to Central Avenue in Dexter (about 2/10's of a mile), word is it should still be completed this year. The latest delay was Amtrak, which operates passenger train service adjacent to this link, insisting on extra safety procedures during path construction, such as having a flagman near the track.

### **New Connector Trail Group Formed – The Huron-Waterloo Pathways Initiative**

A fairly new group has been formed with the long term goal of having a non-motorized path from Dexter west to Chelsea, then up to Stockbridge. This proposed trail would also join the B2B Trail at Dexter. For more information, including maps, visit <http://huron-waterloo-pathways.org>.

### **Border To Border Trail Night "Moonshadow" Bike Rides**

Celebrate the almost full moon with a car free ride along the Huron, on the newest Border to Border trail segment from Dexter's Mill Creek Park to Hudson Mills Metropark. Casual pace ride is 10-15 miles long. All riders are asked to have working front and rear lights. Park behind the Fire Station at [Mill Creek Park](#) in Dexter.

The next Moonshadow ride starts at 9pm on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. For more information call Jim & Jennifer Bryson at 734-424-2802. Sponsored by the Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society ([www.aabts.org](http://www.aabts.org)). You do not have to be a member of the AABTS to participate in the ride.

### **Volunteers Needed To "Adopt" Trail Segments**

The Friends of the Border To Border Trail is still looking for volunteers who would be willing to "adopt" a section of the Border To Border Trail. Volunteers, who routinely use a specific B to B segment on a regular (2-4 times a month) basis would be asked to perform the following...

- Pick up trash (although for the most part, the B to B stays remarkably trash-free).
- Report serious problems (potholes, major downed branches, missing direction signs, etc.).
- During the "green" months, trim back (with hand-tools) vegetation tending to obstruct the trail.

Currently, B-to-B segments needing "adoption" would include (links are to maps of each segment)...

- Grove Road (Ypsilanti Township) - [Bridge Road west to Harris Road/Loonfeather Park](#)
- Grove Road (Ypsilanti Township) – [Harris Road/Loonfeather Park west to Grove Road I-94 bridge](#)

If you would like to volunteer, please send an email to Bob Krzewinski at [wolverbob@gmail.com](mailto:wolverbob@gmail.com) indicating what segment you would like to adopt. Thanks in advance for any help on this!!!

### **Please "Like" Us On Facebook**

The Friends of the Border To Border Trail has a page on Facebook and it would be appreciated if individuals could not only "Like" us, but also encourage others to do the same. To visit the Facebook Friends page, [click here](#).

### **Join The Friends of the Border To Border Trail Discussion Group**

If you want to sign up for the Friends of the Border To Border Trail email discussion group, visit <http://groups.google.com/group/border-to-border>. Please note that to keep out spammers, we ask one question before you can be on the list, that being what Michigan County the Trail is in.

Bob Krzewinski  
Acting Chair  
Friends of the Border To Border Trail  
[www.bordertoborder.org](http://www.bordertoborder.org)  
[wolverbob@gmail.com](mailto:wolverbob@gmail.com)  
734-487-9058