

# Bay Region - West Road and Trail Bicycling Guide



**3RD EDITION**

Counties of:  
Arenac - Bay - Clare  
Gladwin - Gratiot - Isabella  
Midland - Saginaw - Shiawassee

**\$5.00 VALUE**

The Greenway Collaborative, Inc.  
**MDOT**  
Michigan Department of Transportation

## Legend

### TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

**Vehicle Traffic Volume (Vehicles per day)**

- Minor Roads/No Data\*\*
- Light (under 2,500)
- Medium (2,500 - 10,000)
- Heavy (above 10,000)
- Primary Roads/No Data
- Limited Access Highway
- Active Rail Line
- Amtrak\*\*\*

**BICYCLE AND SHARED USE PATHS**

- Improved Shared Use Regional Path
- Partial Shared Use Regional Path
- Unimproved Shared Use Regional Path
- Local Shared Use Path
- Foot Trail
- U.S. Bicycle Route

**LAND USE**

- County Boundary
- Incorporated City/Village Limit
- Federal Land/National Forest
- State of Michigan Lands
- Park (Local or County), Preserve or Wilderness Area
- Lakes/Water
- Rivers/Streams

**SERVICES**

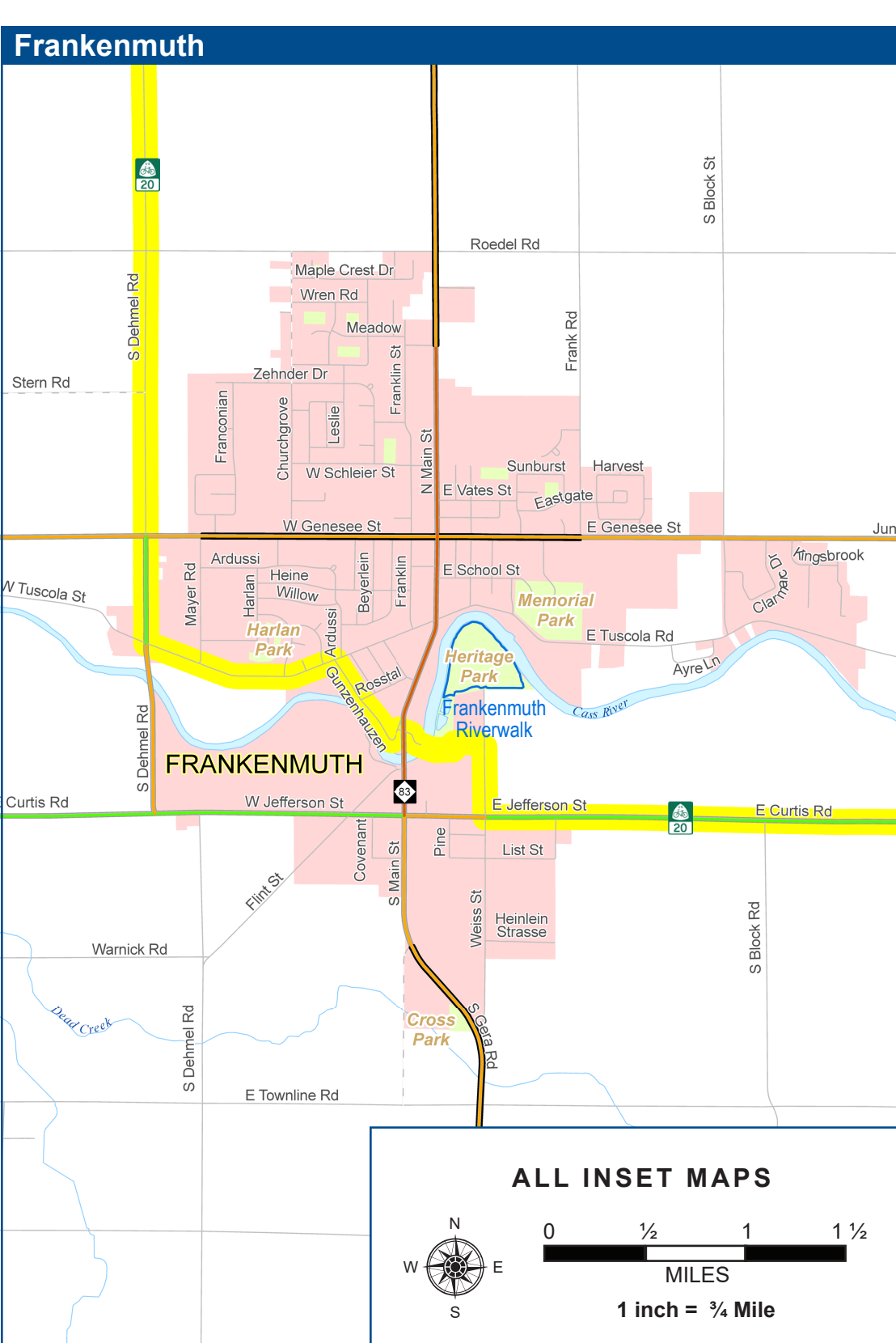
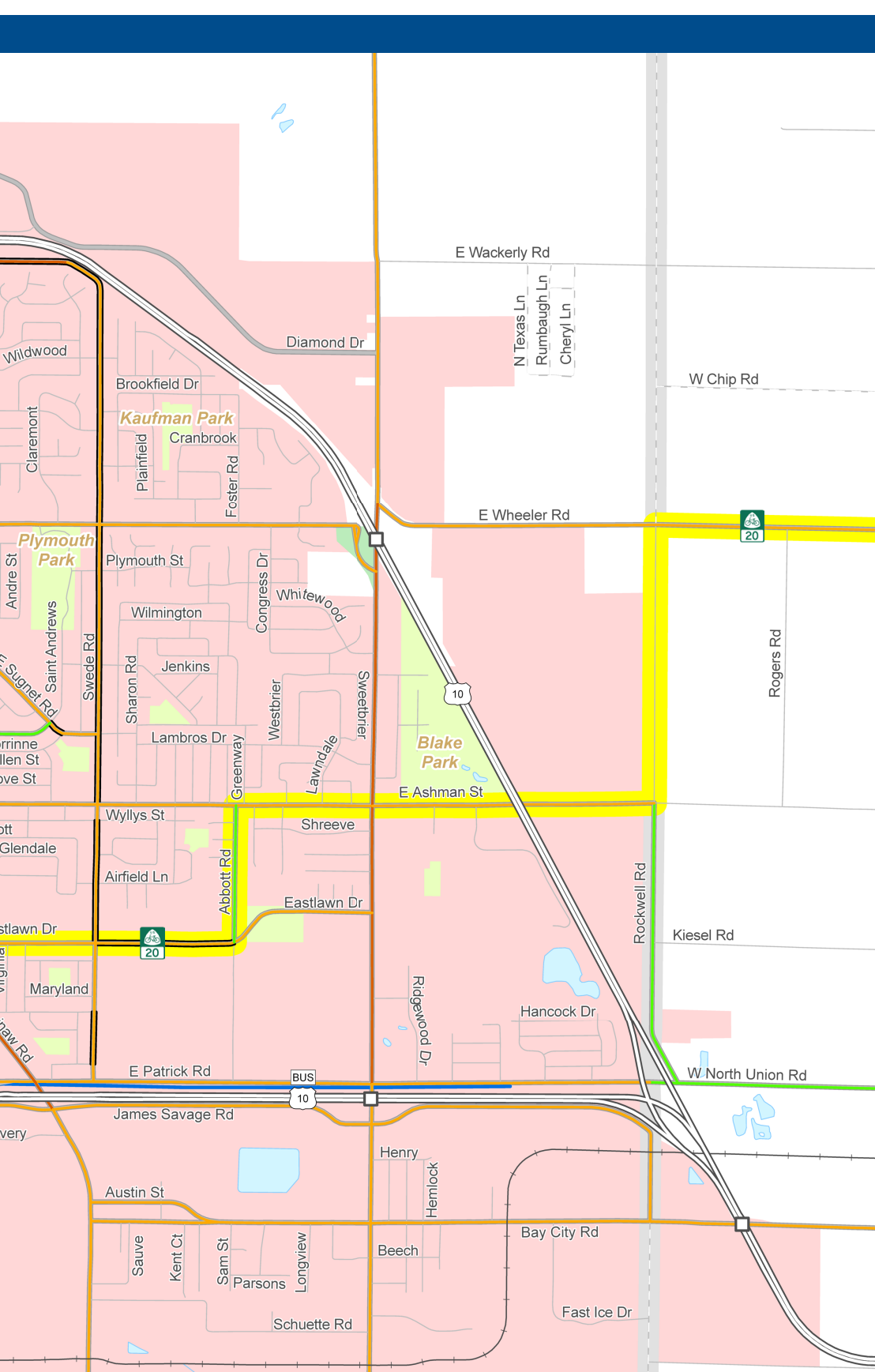
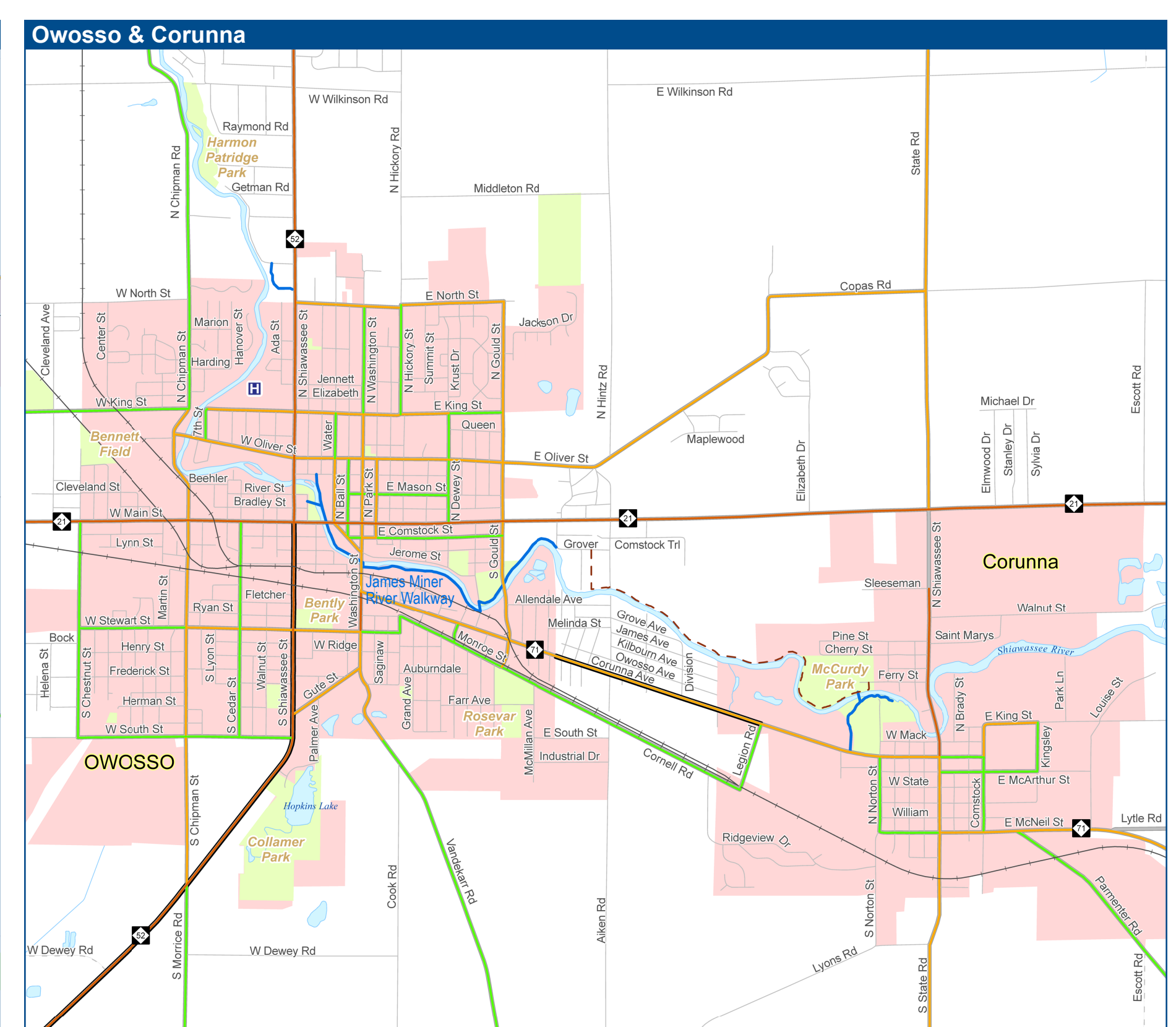
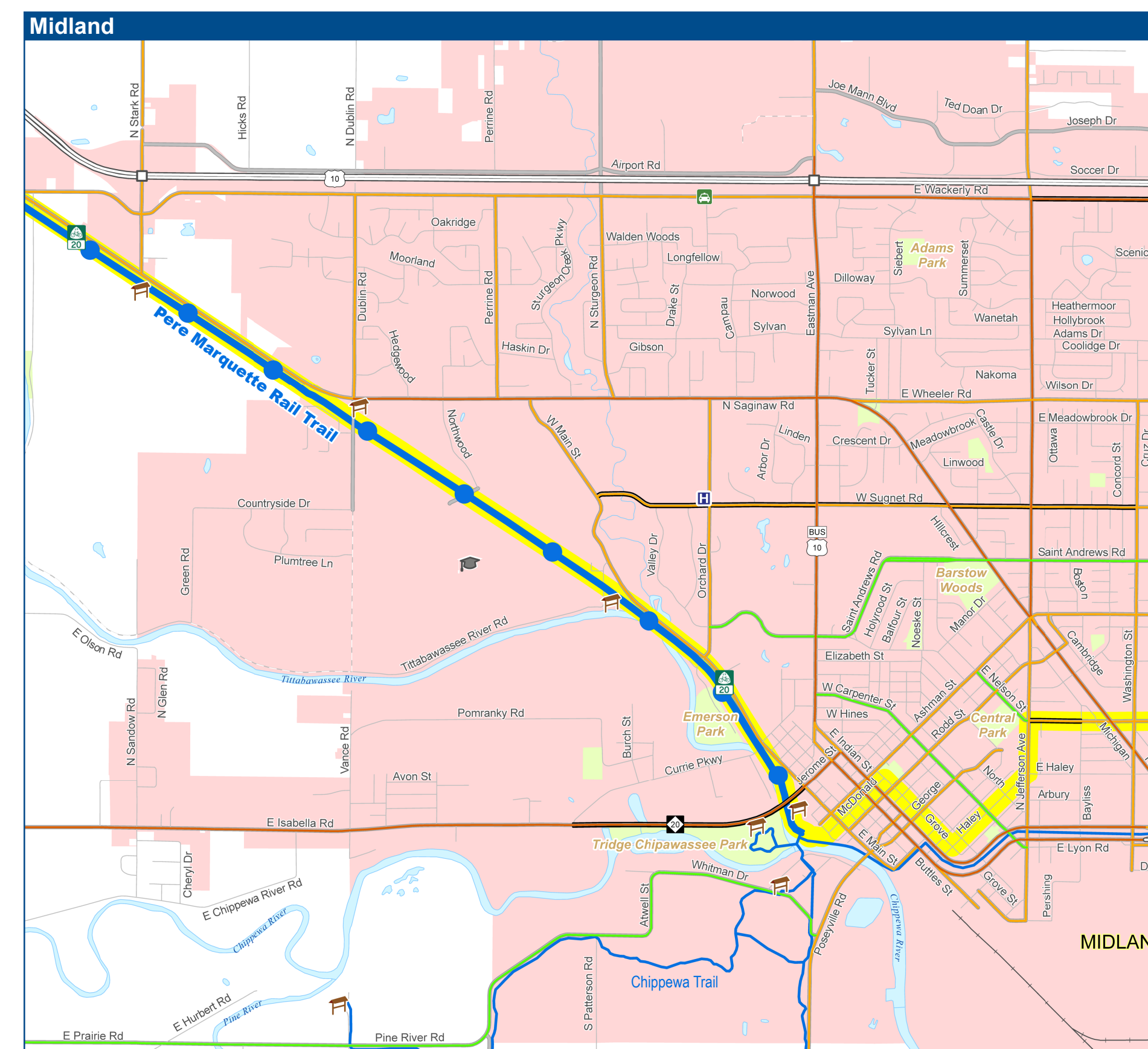
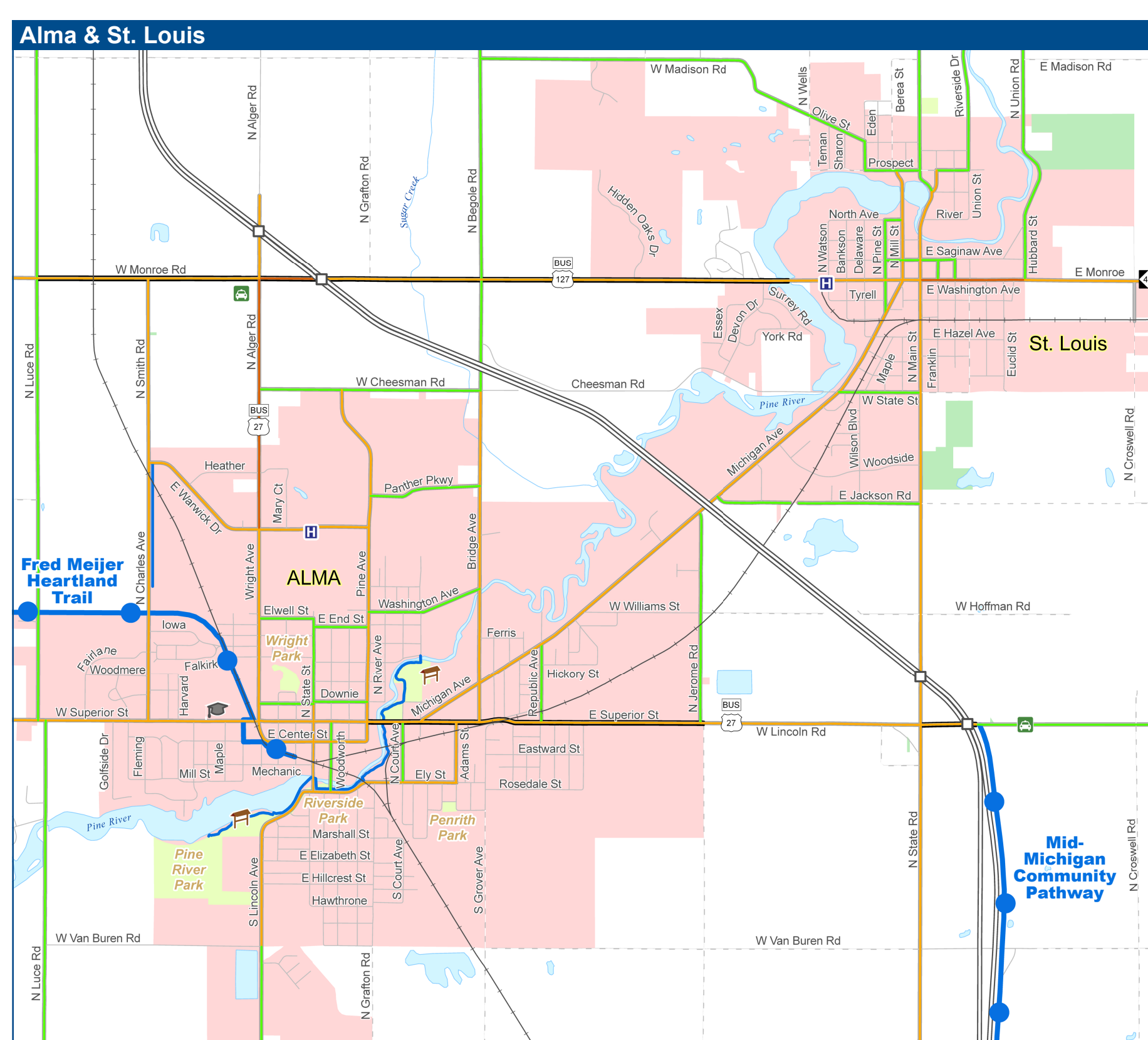
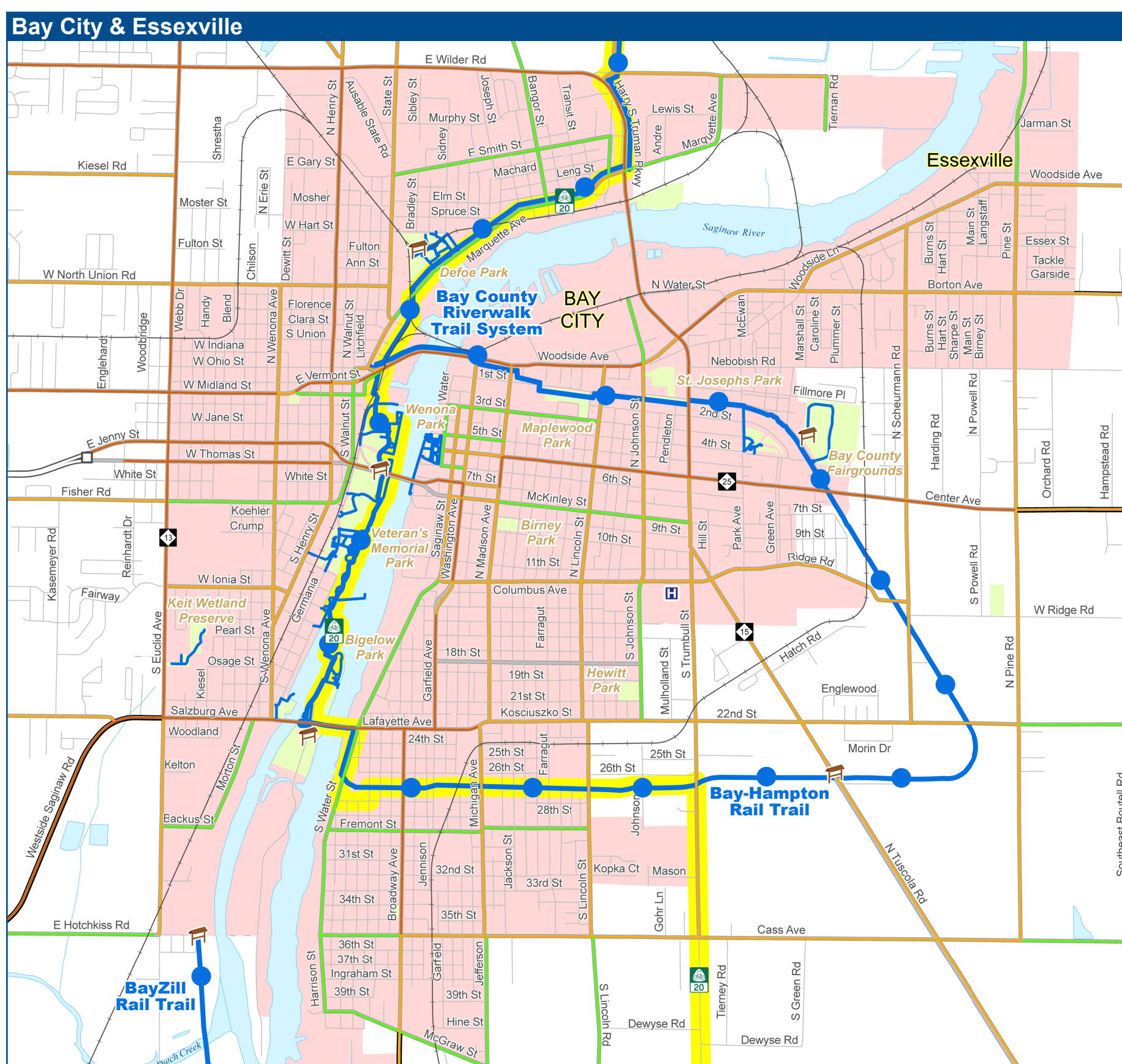
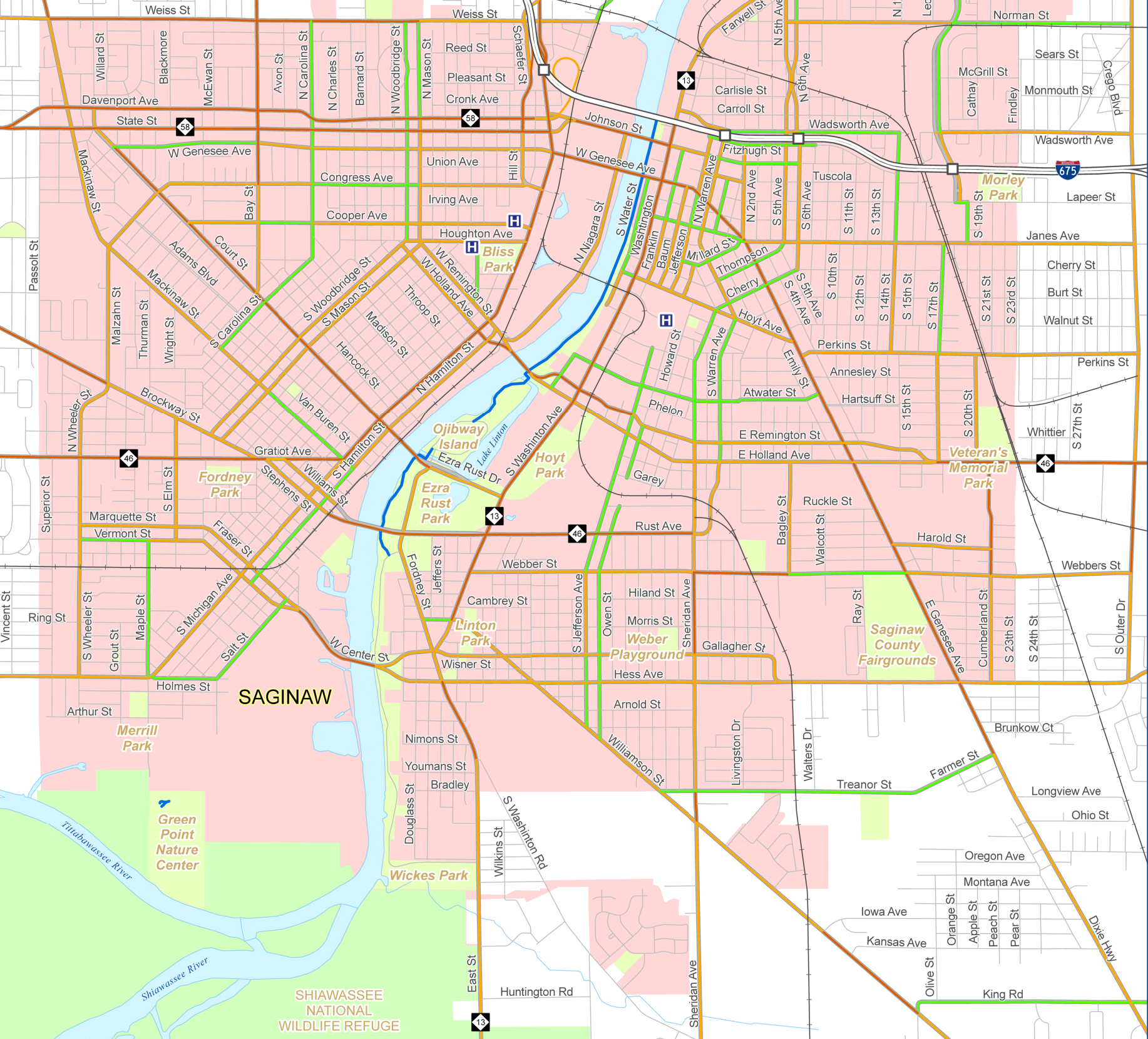
**CITY/VILLAGE NAME**  
Full Service (Food and lodging)  
**City/Village Name**  
Some Services (Food or lodging)

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

- Amtrak Station
- Campground
- Hospital
- Lighthouse
- Trail Head
- University

**RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

- Mountain Biking
- Campground
- Restrooms



## BIKES AND STATE LAW

**Ride as far to the Right as Practicable**  
Bicyclists should keep as far to the right as practicable, moving left to avoid hazards and to position themselves in the appropriate designated through or turn lanes.

**Use Lights and Reflectors at Night**  
State law requires a white light visible for 500 feet and a red reflector visible for 600 feet at night. A flashing red light is recommended. More reflectors and stronger lights make you more visible.

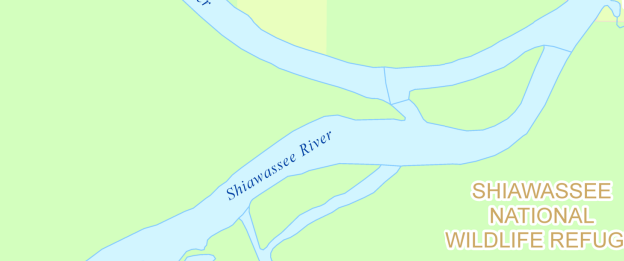
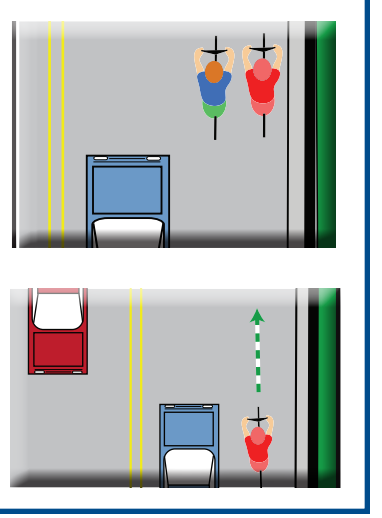
**Use Hand Signals**  
Hand signals tell pedestrians and motorists what you intend to do. It is state law that you use signals.

**Carrying Items**  
If you plan on carrying any packages, bundles or objects, you must be able to keep both hands on the handlebars. A variety of racks, packs, and trailers can be fitted to your bicycle to transport goods.

**Always Yield to Other, Slower Trail Users**  
When operating on a shared use trail or sidewalk, bicyclists must yield the right of way to pedestrians and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian. When overtaking, announce your intentions by saying "passing on your left" or ringing your bell.

**Keep to the Right and Ride Only Two abreast**  
No more than two bicyclists should ride side by side in a public roadway.

**Ride with Traffic**  
Motorists are not looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. State law requires that cyclists ride with the flow of traffic.



1 inch = 1/4 Mile

## Bicycle Safety

**Rights and Responsibilities**  
In general, bicyclists on public roadways have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers and are subject to the same state laws and local ordinances. For everyone's safety observe these bicycling rules and safety tips.

**Always Wear an Approved Helmet**  
Always have your helmet fitted and adjusted properly. Helmets should fit snugly so they do not move around while riding.

**Be Courteous and Respectful on Trails**  
Show courtesy to all trail users. Adhere to trail hours and restrictions. Respect the privacy rights of adjacent property owners along the trail.

**Safety Accessories**  
Water bottles, tire repair kits, mirrors, locks, and first aid kits help make each trip safer and the bicyclist more self sufficient.

**Watch for Hazards**  
Watch out for sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oily pavement, snow and ice. Cross railroad tracks at right angles. It is okay to leave a bike lane or paved shoulder if hazards such as debris and poor pavement conditions make it unsafe.

**Michigan Department of Transportation**  
MDOT provides maps and other information on safe bicycling as well as guidance on how to transport bicycles on ferries and major bridges.  
[www.michigan.gov/mdot-biking](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot-biking)

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources**  
MDNR promotes the development of trail systems throughout the state. They work with local agencies in trail development, planning and design and administer a number of funding programs.  
**Parks and Recreation Division: (517) 284-7275.**  
[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

**League of Michigan Bicyclists**  
LMB is a non-profit membership organization, which promotes bicycling for recreation and transportation in Michigan. The LMB organizes annual Shoreline Bicycle Tours, distributes general cycling information and educates children and adults on safe cycling. The LMB works with MDOT and other state and local agencies to improve conditions for bicycling in Michigan.  
**(517) 334-9100 or (888) MI-BIKES**  
[www.lmb.org](http://www.lmb.org)

**Michigan Trails and Greenway Alliance**  
MTGA is a non-profit organization that fosters and facilitates the creation of an interconnected statewide system of trails and greenways for recreation, health, transportation, economic development and environmental and cultural preservation purposes. MTGA works at both the state and local levels by assisting public and private interests in trail and greenway planning, funding, development and maintenance.  
[www.michigantrails.org](http://www.michigantrails.org)

**Michigan Mountain Biking Association**  
MMBA promotes responsible mountain biking and works toward the goals of common land access and natural resources protection.  
[www.mmba.org](http://www.mmba.org)

**Friends of the Pere-Marquette Rail-Trail**  
PO Box 605, Midland, MI 48641  
[www.pere-marquetterailtrail.org](http://www.pere-marquetterailtrail.org)

**Tri-City Cyclists**  
PO Box 1248, Midland, MI 48641  
[www.tricitycyclists.org](http://www.tricitycyclists.org)

## Bicycle Resources

**AMTRAK:** All Amtrak trains in Michigan accept carry-on bike reservations with some restrictions. Visit [www.amtrak.com/michigan-services-train](http://www.amtrak.com/michigan-services-train) or call 800-USA-RAIL for more information.

**SAGINAW TRANSIT AUTHORITY AND REGIONAL SERVICES:** Buses are equipped with bike racks. For more information visit [www.saginaw-stars.com](http://www.saginaw-stars.com) or call 989-907-4000.

**BAY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY:** Bikes are not permitted. For more information visit [www.baymetro.com](http://www.baymetro.com) or call 989-894-2900.

**Travel Michigan**  
[www.travelmichigan.org](http://www.travelmichigan.org) - (888) 784-7328

**Au Gres Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.augreschamberofcommerce.org/](http://www.augreschamberofcommerce.org/) - (989) 876-6688

**Bay Area Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.baycityarea.com](http://www.baycityarea.com) - (989) 893-4567

**Bay Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau**  
[www.baycityarea.com](http://www.baycityarea.com) - (989) 893-1222

**Clare Area Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.claremichigan.com](http://www.claremichigan.com) - (989) 386-2442

**Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.frankenmuth.org](http://www.frankenmuth.org) - (989) 386-8696 or (989) 652-6106

**Gladwin Regional Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.gladwincountychamber.com](http://www.gladwincountychamber.com) - (989) 426-5451

**Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.gratiot.org](http://www.gratiot.org) - (989) 463-5525

**Harrison Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.harrisonchamber.com](http://www.harrisonchamber.com) (989) 539-6011 or (877) 539-6011

**Midland Area Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.macc.org](http://www.macc.org) - (989) 839-9901

**Mt. Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.mt-pleasant.net](http://www.mt-pleasant.net) - (989) 772-2396

**Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.saginawchamber.org](http://www.saginawchamber.org) - (989) 752-7161

**Standish Area Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.standishchamber.org](http://www.standishchamber.org) - (989) 846-7867

**Go Great Lakes Bay**  
[www.gogreat.com](http://www.gogreat.com) - (800) 444-9879

## Bikes on Transit

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## Tourist Information

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## Where to Ride

**On the Road:**  
Bicycles are permitted on all Michigan highways and roads EXCEPT limited-access freeways or unless otherwise posted. Bicycles are allowed on all road systems including those in state forests, state parks, national forests and national parks.

**State Game Areas:**  
Bicycles are allowed on designated trails and areas in state game areas. For general recreation questions, please e-mail DNR-ParksAndRecreation@michigan.gov or call (517) 284-7275 (517-284-PARK). [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

**State Forests:**  
Bicycles are allowed on most state forest trails. For general recreation questions, please e-mail DNR-ParksAndRecreation@michigan.gov or call (517) 284-7275 (517-284-PARK). [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

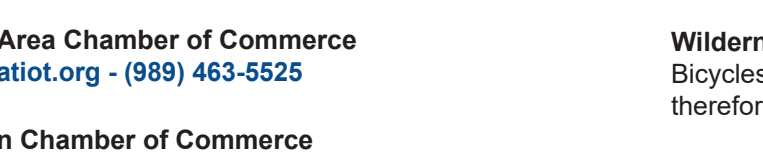
**State Parks:**  
Bikes are currently allowed on all paved and non-paved roads in Michigan state parks. Bikes may also be ridden on designated bike paths. Mountain bikes are allowed only on trails designated for bicycle use. For general recreation questions, please e-mail DNR-ParksAndRecreation@michigan.gov or call (517) 284-7275 (517-284-PARK). [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

**Wilderness Areas:**  
Bicycles are considered to be mechanical devices and are therefore prohibited in national wilderness areas.

**Local Trail Systems:**  
Many communities have developed their own trail systems. Rules and regulations vary by each individual trail and community. Contact the appropriate jurisdiction for more information.

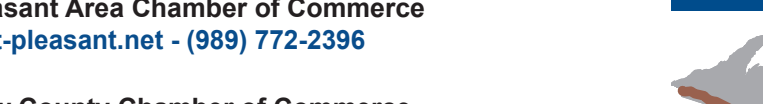
**Iron Belle Trail**

The Iron Belle Trail - Bike Route travels from Ironwood to Belle Isle and includes trails in Saginaw, Bay and Arenac Counties. The bike route is currently under development. For information contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation division at (517) 284-7275. [www.michigan.gov/ironbelle](http://www.michigan.gov/ironbelle)



**Mid-Michigan Community Pathway**

The Mid-Michigan Community Pathway is a multi-use trail system connecting various communities in the central part of Michigan.



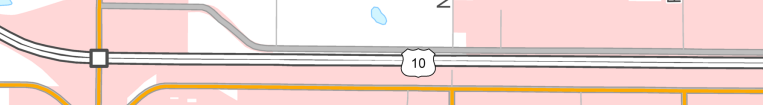
**Bay County Riverwalk Trail System**

The Bay County Riverwalk Trail System follows the Saginaw River through Bay City and Essexville, providing a scenic route for cyclists.



**Pere Marquette Rail Trail**

The Pere Marquette Rail Trail is a long-distance trail following the former rail line from Midland to Saginaw.



**Bay-Zill Rail Trail**

The Bay-Zill Rail Trail is a scenic trail connecting Bay City and Zilwaukee, following the former rail line.



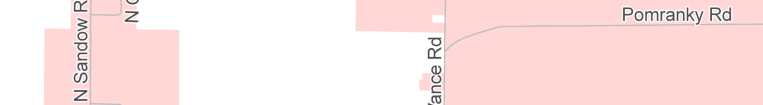
**Bay-Hampton Rail Trail**

The Bay-Hampton Rail Trail is a trail connecting Bay City and Hampton, following the former rail line.



**Chippewa Trail**

The Chippewa Trail is a scenic trail connecting Midland and Saginaw, following the former rail line.



**Harlan Park**

Harlan Park is a large park in Frankenmuth, offering a scenic trail for cyclists.



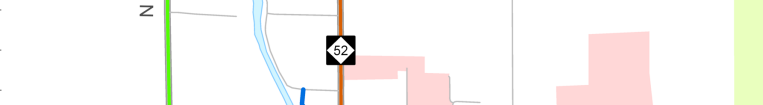
**Frankenmuth Riverwalk**

The Frankenmuth Riverwalk is a scenic trail along the Saginaw River in Frankenmuth.



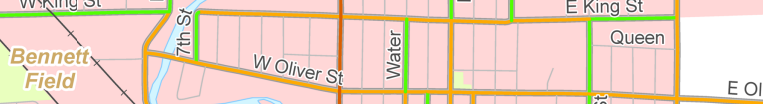
**Green Point Nature Center**

The Green Point Nature Center is a scenic trail in Saginaw, offering a peaceful ride.



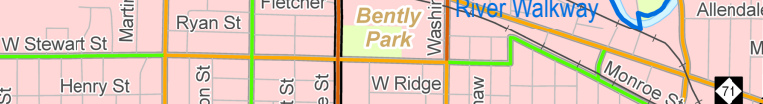
**Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge**

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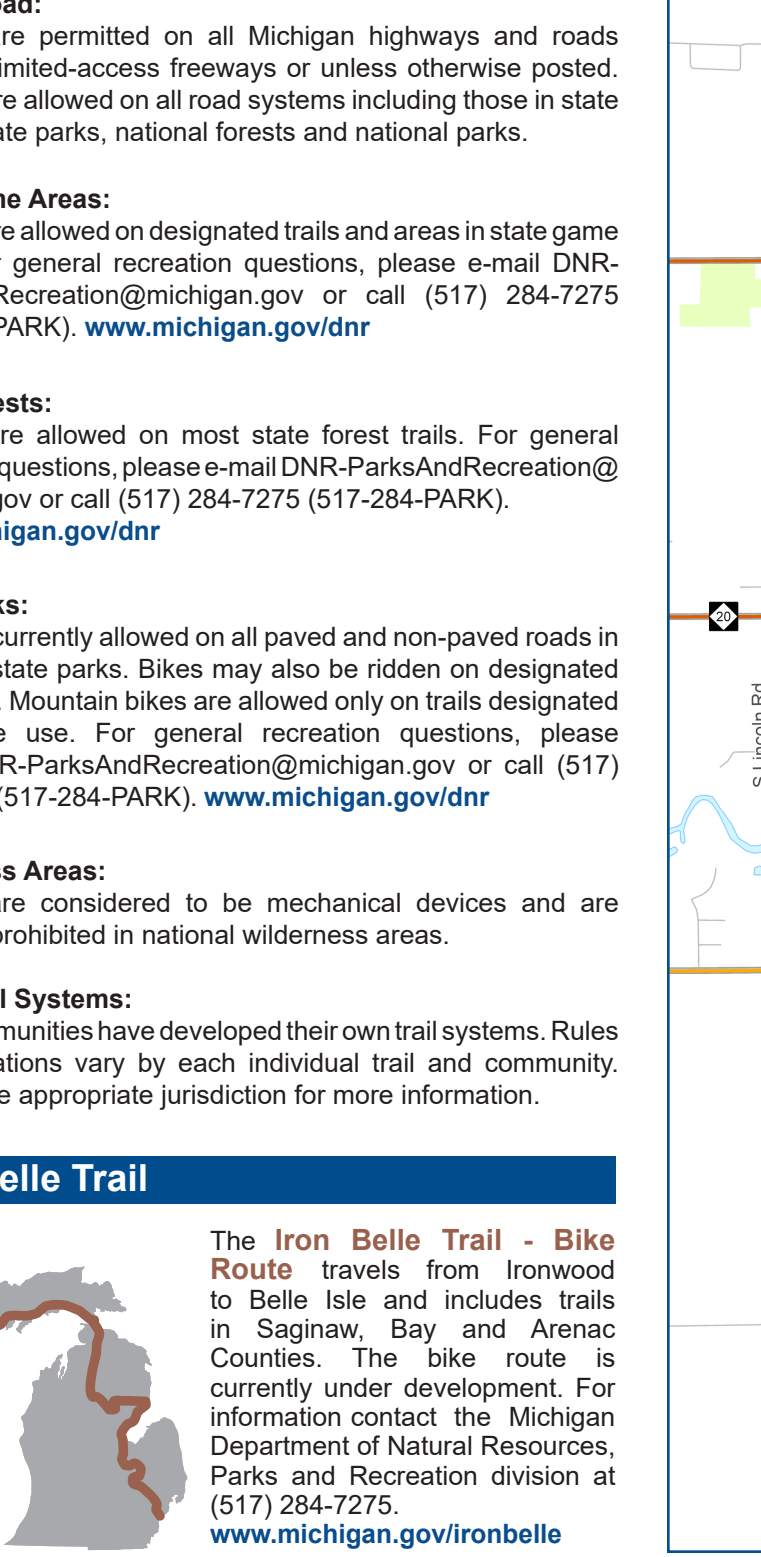


**Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge**

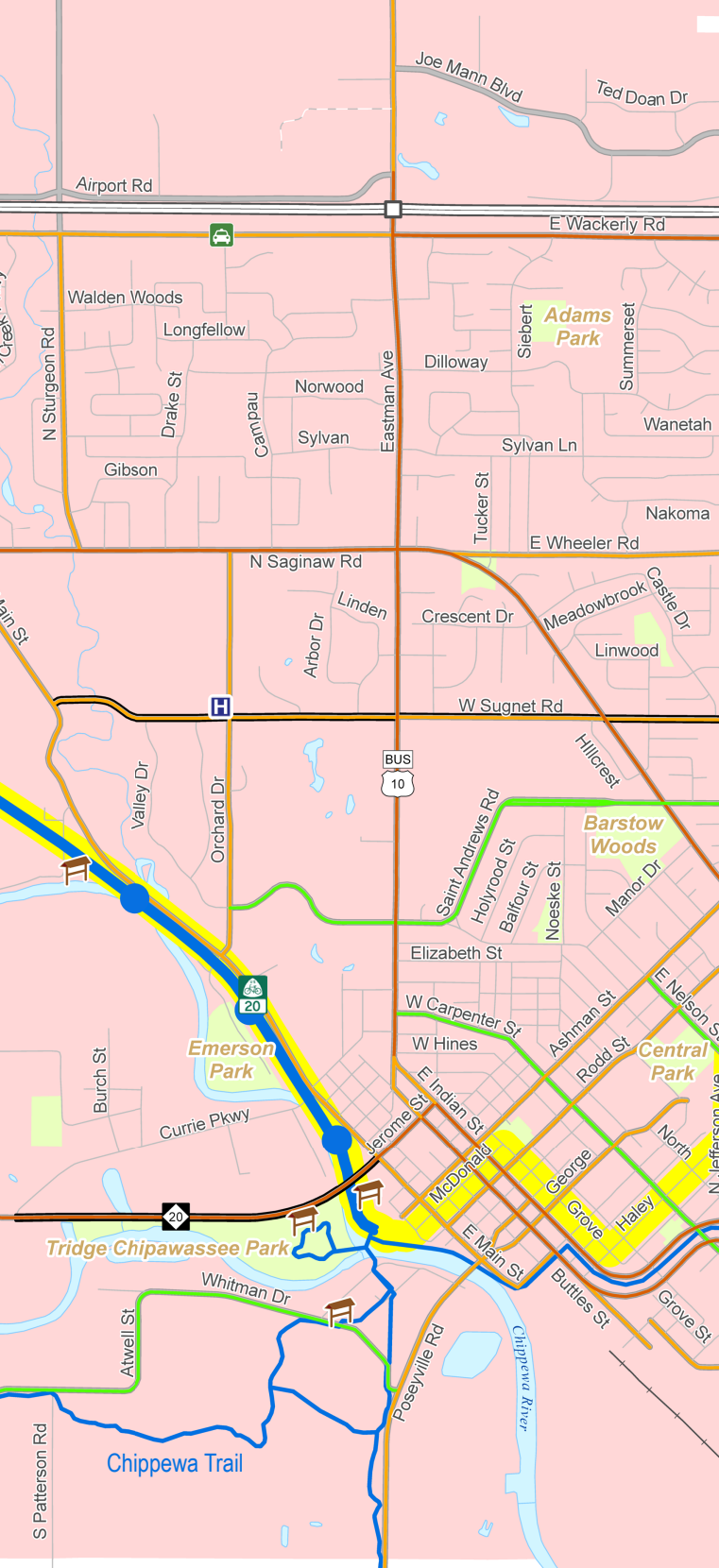
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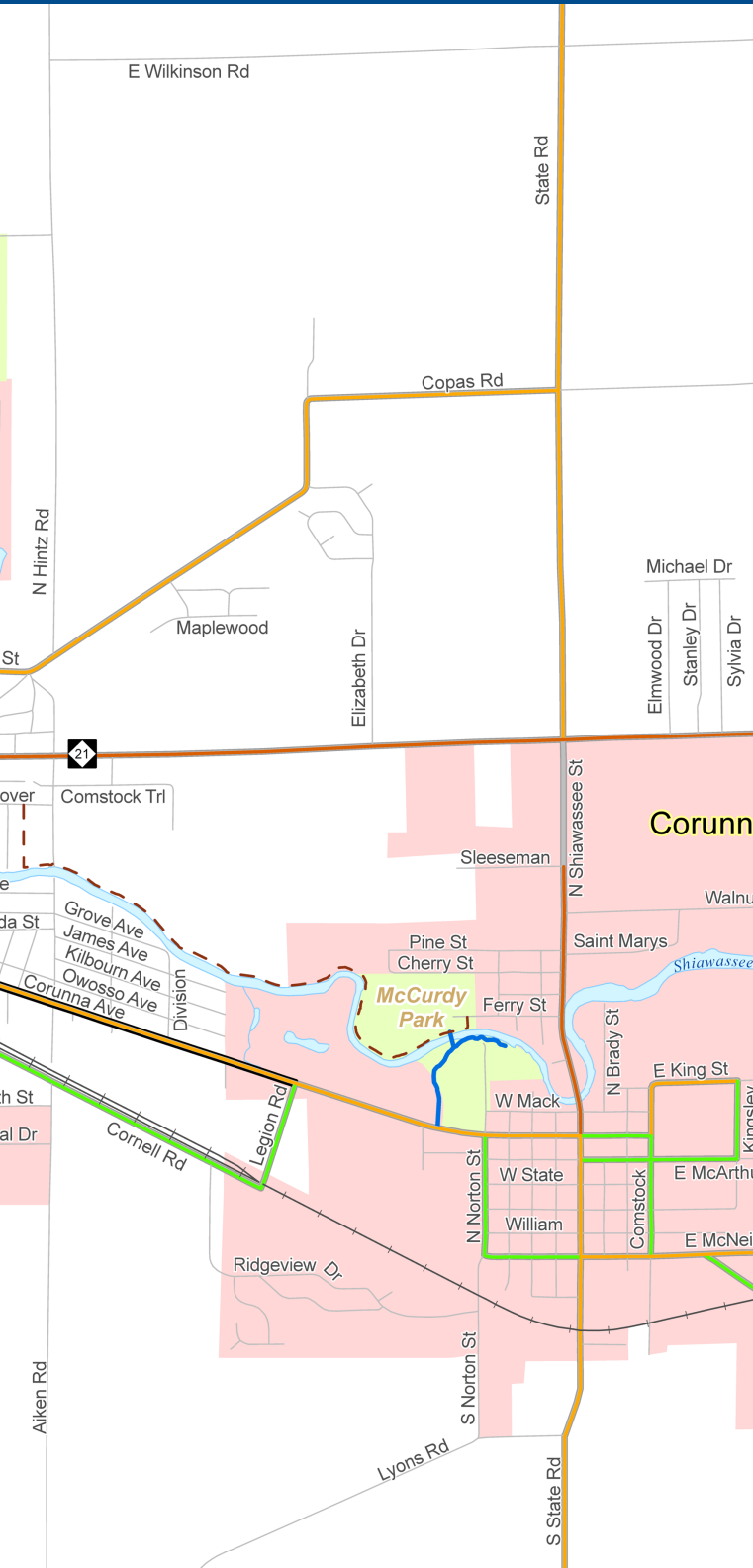
## Mt. Pleasant



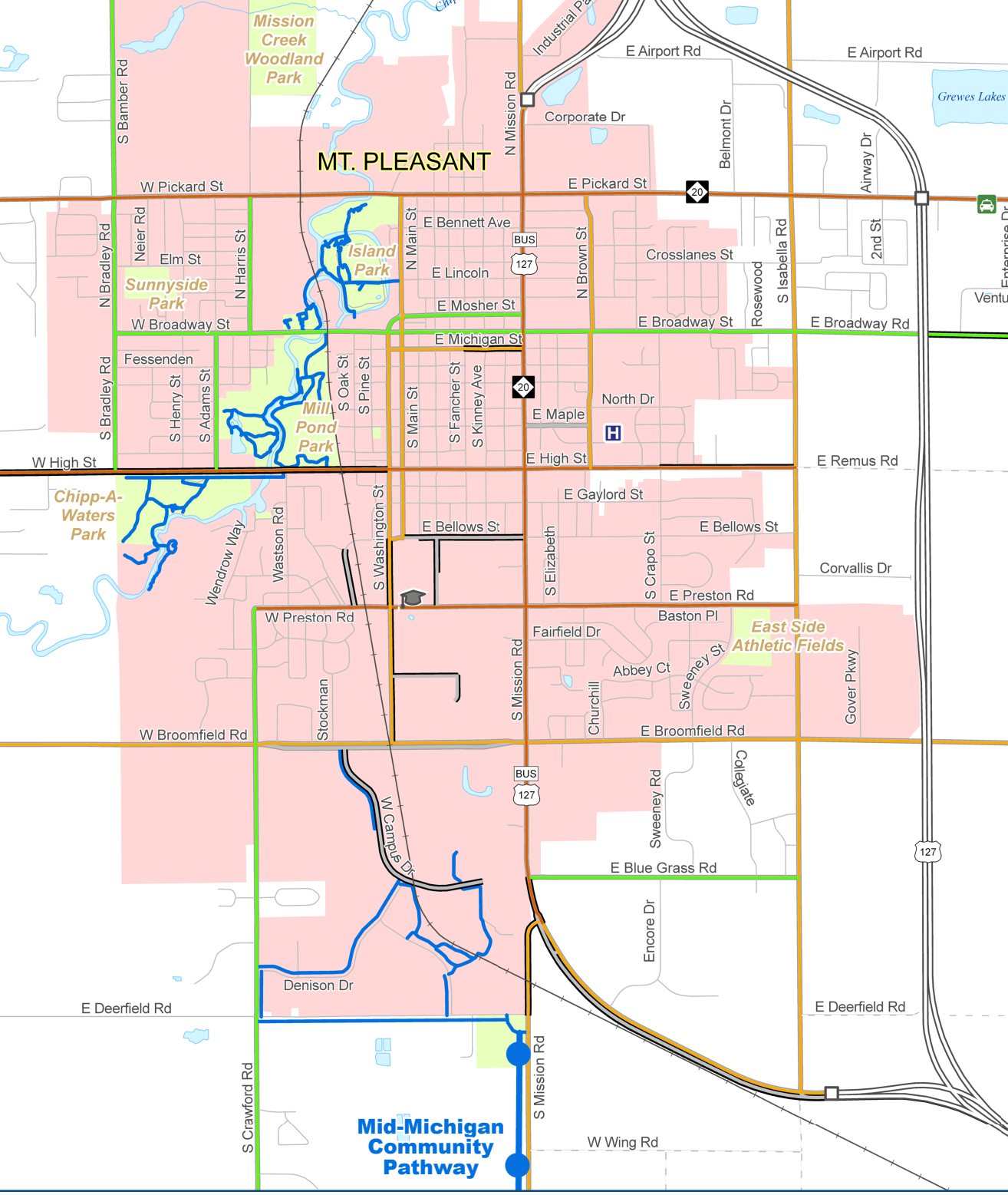
## Midland



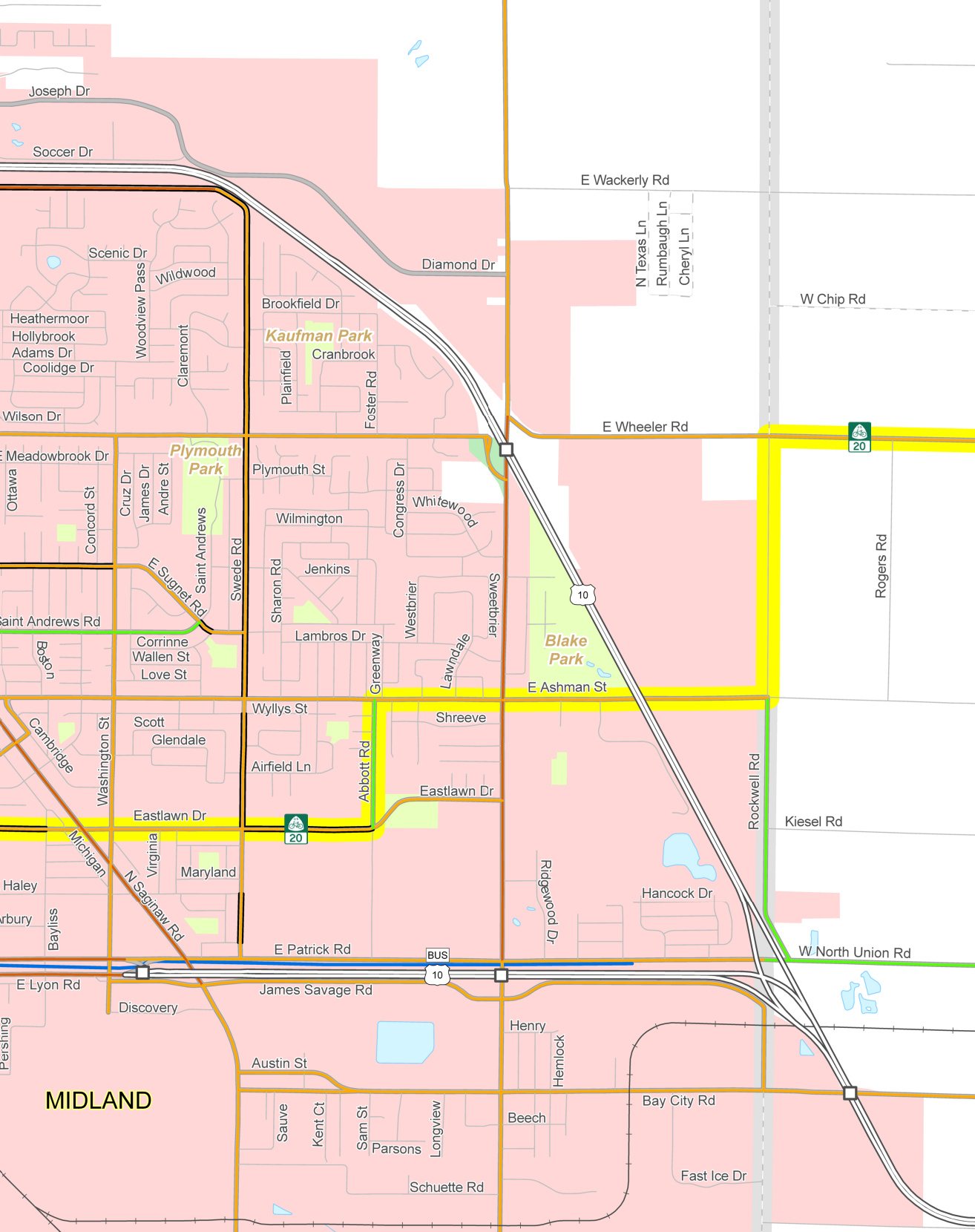
## Owosso & Corunna



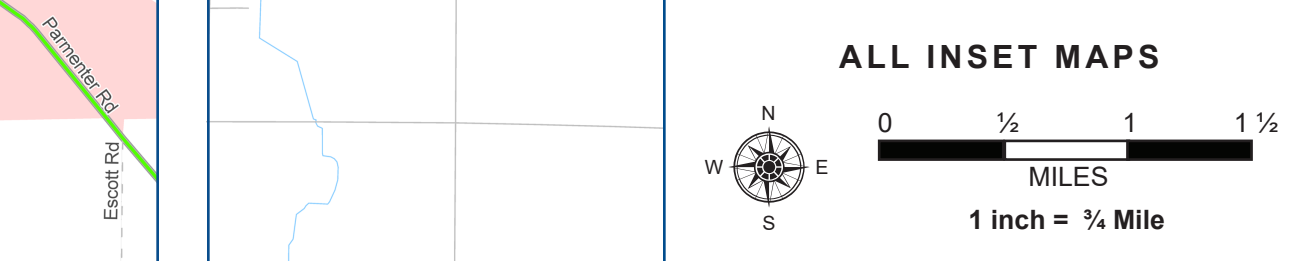
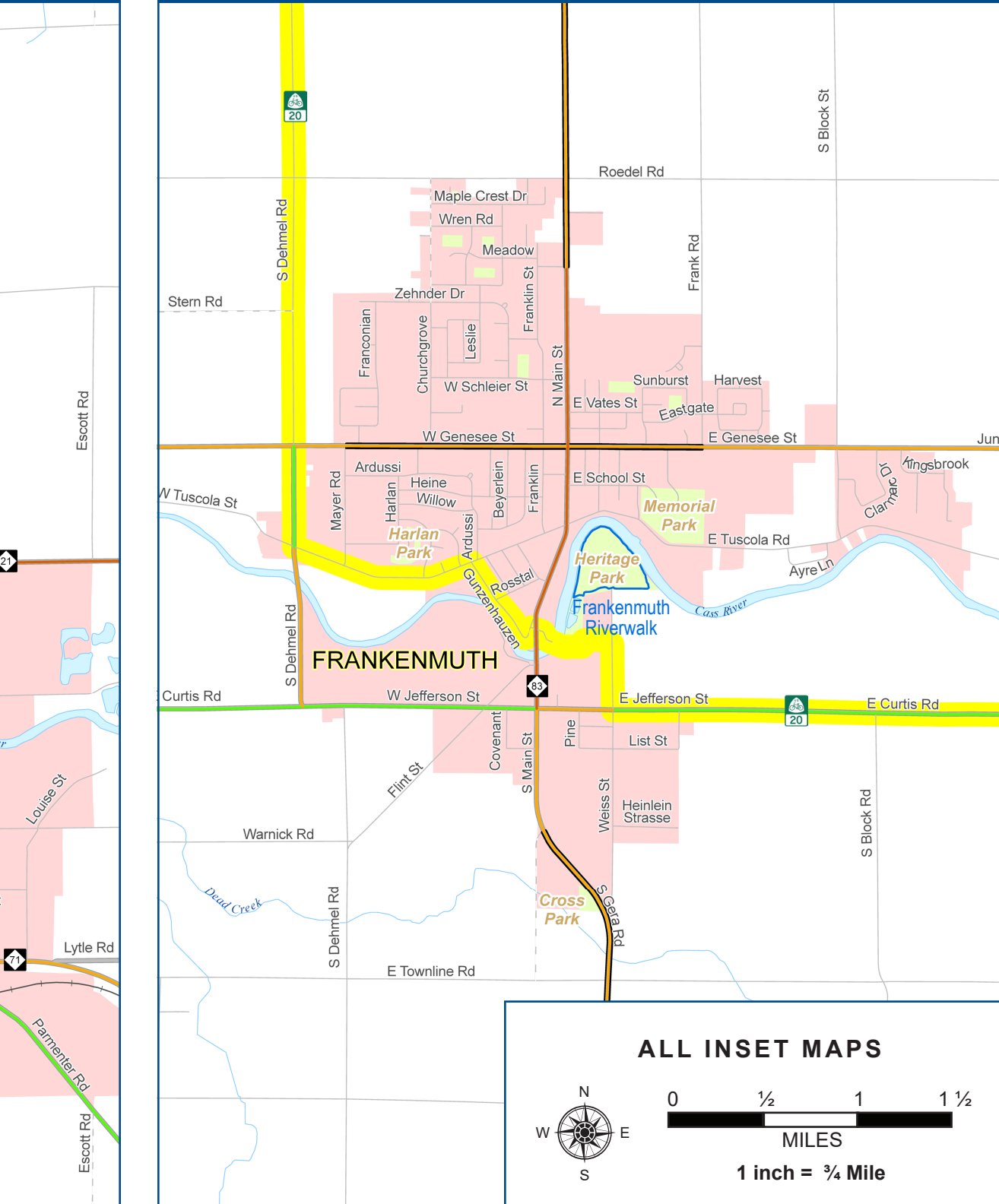
## Frankenmuth



## Saginaw



## Alma & St. Louis



1 inch = 1/4 Mile