



FARMINGTON PATHWAYS COMMITTEE
LOCATION: Conference Room at City Hall

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:05 pm

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Joe VanDerZanden, Heather Davies, Chris Weber, Maria Taylor, Dave Hearing, Tim Prince

Absent: Jamie Palmisano, Kevin Daniels

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tim made the motion to approve, supported by Joe. Approved unanimously

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. MEETING MINUTES, JULY 9, 2025

Motion to approve by Dave, supported Maria. Approved unanimously.

b. MEETING MINUTES, AUGUST 13, 2025

Motion to approve by Maria, supported by Joe. Approved unanimously.

5. MONTHLY INSPO

Watched video

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. NONE – No old business on the agenda.

Heather reviewed and presented a power point presentation she created to present the results of the Crosswalk to MDOT to seek approval for adding crosswalks. OHM has a meeting scheduled with MDOT to discuss proposed crosswalks. Heather suggested that Pathways committee representatives participate in the meeting, along with possible representatives from City Council and other committees, and plan to brief those participants on the presentation and information before meeting with MDOT.

Next steps – A pedestrian count is still needed. Chris has a meeting with a vendor, Placer AI, to see about them checking how many people park by Side Car Slider Bar and pedestrian traffic from there as possible supporting data for crosswalks.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. POTENTIAL GROUP BIKE TRIP OVER THE M-5 OVERPASS

Former Pathways member Bill Gesaman reached out with the suggestion of the committee joining him on a bike ride including the pedestrian bridge over M5 to view updates and support MDOT continuing to maintain the bridge. The committee showed interest and planned to respond to Bill to schedule a day and time.

b. EXISTING MOBILITY MAP AND MOBILITY FRAMEWORK:

<https://ohm.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/z9qu9bianfi9bs5>

Reviewed the framework, map, and related projects.

-Discussed the possibility of getting Oakland County assistance and funding in developing a path connecting Old Farmington Rd hill path to Heritage Park since Oakland County is taking over management of Heritage Park and looking to invest in connectivity in southern Oakland County. in path connecting to Heritage Park.

Additional projects discussed:

-Crosswalks at Orchard and Grand River.

-Crosswalk on west side of Grand River at Power.

-The previously explored path from Chatham Hills to Drake.

-Discussed issues with the crosswalk at Farmington and Freedom, including missing an ADA ramp and the crosswalk not quite lining up with the corner. Identified it will require construction and likely have to wait for a future project to redesign when the road is repaired/updated.

-Planned to keep track of projects and progress with creating an ongoing progress tracker and generate ideas with a vision board.

Motion by Maria, seconded by Tim that Kevin will manage the progress tracker. Unanimously approved.

- c. AARP GRANT OPPORTUNITY - <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/community-challenge/info-2025/2025-challenge.html>

Planned to pick a project and request funding from this for next year. Maria volunteered to work on writing the grant when the time comes.

- d. DISCUSSION OF HOW TO COORDINATE TREES AND SIDEWALKS:

- i. <https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2025/8/7/chop-or-adapt-6-ways-to-fix-sidewalks-without-losing-urban-trees>

Watched the video and discussed methods featured in the video.

- e. ANY NEW TARGET AREAS?

- i. Resident Inquiry regarding blind parking lot entrances at CVS and State street and at Grand River and the Vines. – The Vines driveway has already been converted to one way traffic to correct this issue. CVS – Unlikely can do anything with that as it is controlled by CVS.

- ii. Crossing light at Farmington and Alta Loma (it shuts off at 9:00) and adding button activated cross walk lights if you are extending Syndicate hours. Same issue at Farmington and Colfax. Same issue at Grand River and Power. Any other additional crosswalk timing issues?

Maria suggested a motion to have buttons at crosswalks always work to get a stop light and walk signal to stop traffic and cross safely, otherwise switch to midnight. It was decided that Chris would check into how the signals work and options, whether they can still work when street lights are flashing yellow or if can only both be on or off look into changing schedule.

- iii. Grand River Crossing at Liberty Street sign with arrow issue
Discussed the issues and likely obstacles to changing anything, identifying that MDOT already looked at and suggested other changes not including these.

- iv. Sidewalk at 23200 Power (correct location is on Power next to home at 32395 Valley View Ct) and 2311 Cass
Forwarded on to DPW

Maria – a resident on Oakland off Drake contacted Maria, said the sidewalk program removed a chunk of sidewalk and has yet to be replaced. Passing on to DPW

-Maria made a motion to add two sided pedestrian and crosswalk signs at Siawasee St. and Power Rd. to deal with issue of drivers driving through with pedestrians present. People drive through the crosswalk at Siawasee and Power Rd.

Motion by Maria, supported by Dave approved unanimously.

Pathways will ask the city to explore making this change.

-Maria Mentions she hears lots of complaints about speeding and suggested obtaining movable speed bumps/humps that Public Safety could move throughout the city to slow down traffic. Planned to make the suggestion to the Public Safety Department.

-Heather brought up following up on the tree near City Hall that she identified as appearing unsafe as a hazard to fall.

f. ANY NEW CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?

None identified.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Patrick Thomas of 22432 Brookdale shared concerns about safety and convenience of pathways for cyclists. He reports he saw the QR code to support keeping it the bridge and used it, feels it is a good pedestrian connector, but identified the new switchbacks there to access and leave the bridge are difficult for bikes to navigate. Encourages using good design with bikes in mind at bike speed to make pathways truly multi-use, that turns and angles around trees and such are difficult for bikes. He reference the discussion of refuge islands as part of proposed crosswalks can be a concern that it will leave less space for bikes and cars to share the road and be squeezed with cars at those points making it less safe for bikes.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

Tim – Expressed interested in pursuing the pump track project and willingness to take ownership of forwarding that project and exploring community feedback interest.

Tim –Shared concern about a frequent electric bike user traveling on local sidewalks at unsafe speeds and proposed making an ordinance against electric bikes on sidewalks. Local ordinances were discussed and differentiation between classes of ebikes. Tim moved to send a recommendation to City Council to make an ordinance to limit or ban ebike use on sidewalks. Dave seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT 9:06 pm

Next meeting: OCTOBER 8, 2025