

Long term Maintenance of Greenways in Michigan  
Possible Funding Sources

**Fees from users**

WHAT	PROS	CONS
<b>Pay boxes on trails</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each trail get its own dollars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of the boxes</li> <li>• Lightly used trails might not collect enough funds</li> </ul>

**Fees through taxes**

WHAT	PROS	CONS
<b>Allocate portion of vehicle title fee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big fight with other interests</li> </ul>
<b>Allocate portion of the gas tax</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big fight with other interests</li> </ul>
<b>Licensing fee for bicycles</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who would collect the fees?</li> <li>• Who would receive the fees?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credibility from users' paying own way</li> <li>• Increase the cost (perceived and/or real) of bicycles in Michigan</li> <li>• Steady stream of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrative cost (time and money)</li> </ul>
<b>Real Estate Transfer tax</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>Establish recreational authorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time it would take to push local legislation through</li> <li>• Time it would take to advocate for increases in future years</li> </ul>
<b>Local Option Resort Tax</b> Small towns with many tourists can charge sales tax on meals, lodging, entertainment & recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of funds in areas of high use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time it would take to push local legislation through</li> <li>• Time it would take to advocate for increases in future years</li> </ul>
<b>Distance Surcharge Fee</b> Sliding scale system creates economic incentives for developers to locate projects closer to town centers and facilitates fee for new users who come b/c of new development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of funds in areas of high use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time it would take to push local legislation through</li> <li>• Time it would take to advocate for increases in future years</li> <li>• Might be better used to acquire land, not maintain?</li> </ul>
<b>Lottery Funds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fight with education interests</li> </ul>

Any option would require a special initiative campaign – is the bicycling/ped community ready to carry that out?

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### Michigan Trailways Fund

WHAT	PROS	CONS
<p><b>Allocate funds to the existing mechanism, the MI Trailways Fund</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similar work happening in SE Michigan through the Trust – better to follow a regional model?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not need to create a new mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big fight with other interests</li> </ul>

### Foundations

WHAT	PROS	CONS
<p><b>Foundations that include health promotion, recreation or environment asked to fund trail maintenance through a grant</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take time to cultivate interest from foundations</li> </ul>
<p><b>Endowment for trail at local community foundation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local funding keeps control local</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Richer communities could use this but might leave out poorer and/or less populated communities</li> </ul>