

Lansing Greenway

June 2024

Family Friendly Connected Community



TOWN RESIDENTS CALL FOR TRAILS

Since the Year 2000 Parks & Recreation Master Plan, trails have consistently ranked as one of the most requested additions to Lansing’s parks and recreation programs.

2022 Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan

walking and biking trails were ranked as the most important recreational facility for their household.

2018 Comprehensive Master Plan

88% of respondents say the town should consider expanding trails, with 74% supporting using tax dollars to develop trails.



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PURPOSE OF THE GREENWAY

To strengthen the Town of Lansing's commitment to being a Family Friendly Connected Community

The benefits of trails are many:

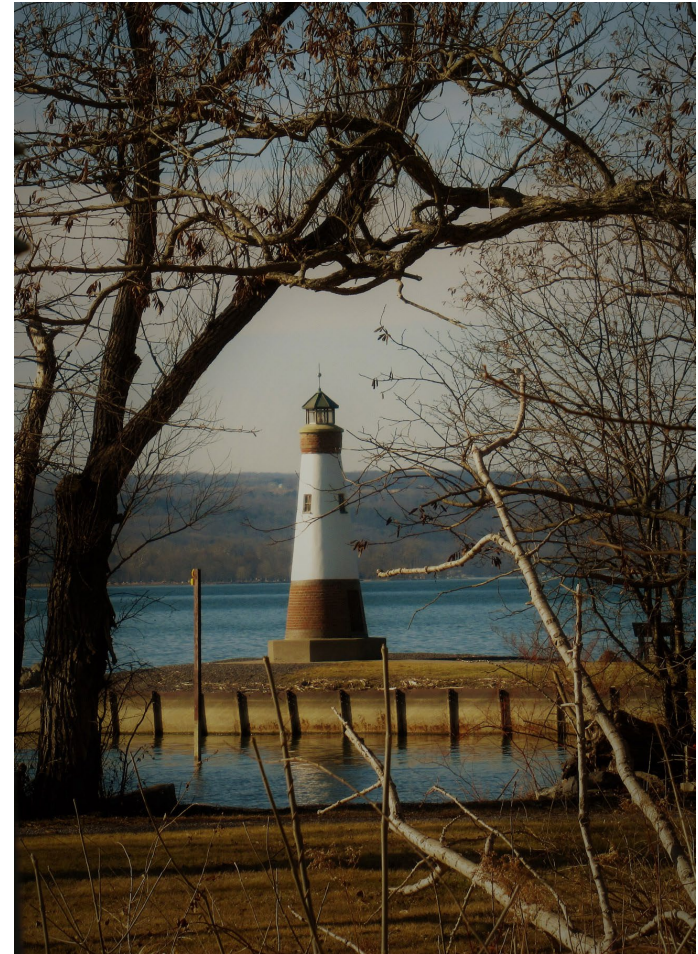
Health - trails promote physical activity and improve public health.

Safety - walking or biking along busy roadways exposes all people, especially children, to increased risk.

Environmental - trails encourage fewer trips by car, reducing congestion and air pollution.

Social - trails help connect neighborhoods and communities, fostering social connections and a sense of community.

Access to the Outdoors - Trails can promote equitable access to the outdoors for people of all ages and abilities.



Myers Point Lighthouse by: Rick Potter

TYPES OF TRAILS

Nature Trails



Lansing Greenway Trail Type

The Lansing Greenway will, to the largest extent possible, be a multi-use trail located away from major roadways to provide families with the safest and most enjoyable experience while walking or biking in the Town of Lansing.

Where off-road routes are not possible, the Greenway might include bike lanes, sidewalks or designated paved shoulders.

Bike Lanes & Pedestrian Sidewalks



Multi-Use Trail



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TRAIL DESIGN

While all final designs will be created by a licensed professional engineer or landscape architect, some of the design guidelines currently favored by the Trails Working Group include:

Types of Uses Allowed on the Trail

The Lansing Greenway is for everyone: Bikers, runners, walkers, cross-country skiers, dog walkers (with a leash) etc. All non-motorized uses are welcome.

Trail Design

The trail tread will likely be 10 feet wide with 2-foot-wide shoulders on each side. The final choice of trail surface will be made in consultation with engineers; however, stone dust is the most likely material due to its cost effectiveness and natural look. As per federal requirements, the trail will comply with the **Americans with Disabilities Act**.

Road Crossings

The trail will most likely cross Route 34B in several locations as well as town and county roads. A variety of safety measures including traffic lights, signage and raised crossings could be used. Most importantly, all crossings will be designed by a licensed engineer and approved by the State or County.



Empire State Trails by: Wally Elton

FUNDING

Many state and federal grants are currently available to fund trail design and construction. These typically cover between 50% and 80% of the cost. Some grants allow other grants to be used as the local match. Although ultimately, some Town funds will be needed to construct the trail along with in-kind services from Town personnel.

Potential Grants Include:

- Tompkins County Tourism Capital Grant
- Tompkins County Tourism Planning Grant
- NYS Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
- NYS Parks and Trails Partnership Grants
- NYS Environmental Protection Fund (EPF)
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)
- Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)
- Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS)
- The Trust for Public Land Grant Program (TPL)
- Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC)
- People for Bikes Community Grant Program
- The Conservation Alliance Grant Program
- NYS Assembly & Senate Grants



TRAIL EASEMENTS & MAINTENANCE

Working with Landowners

The trail will most likely be on both public and private land. Public property such as the Town Ball Fields Park and the LCSD campus will host the trail. The town will also collaborate with private landowners who volunteer a portion of their land for a trail easement. The town already has trail easements in place with several property owners.

Trail Maintenance

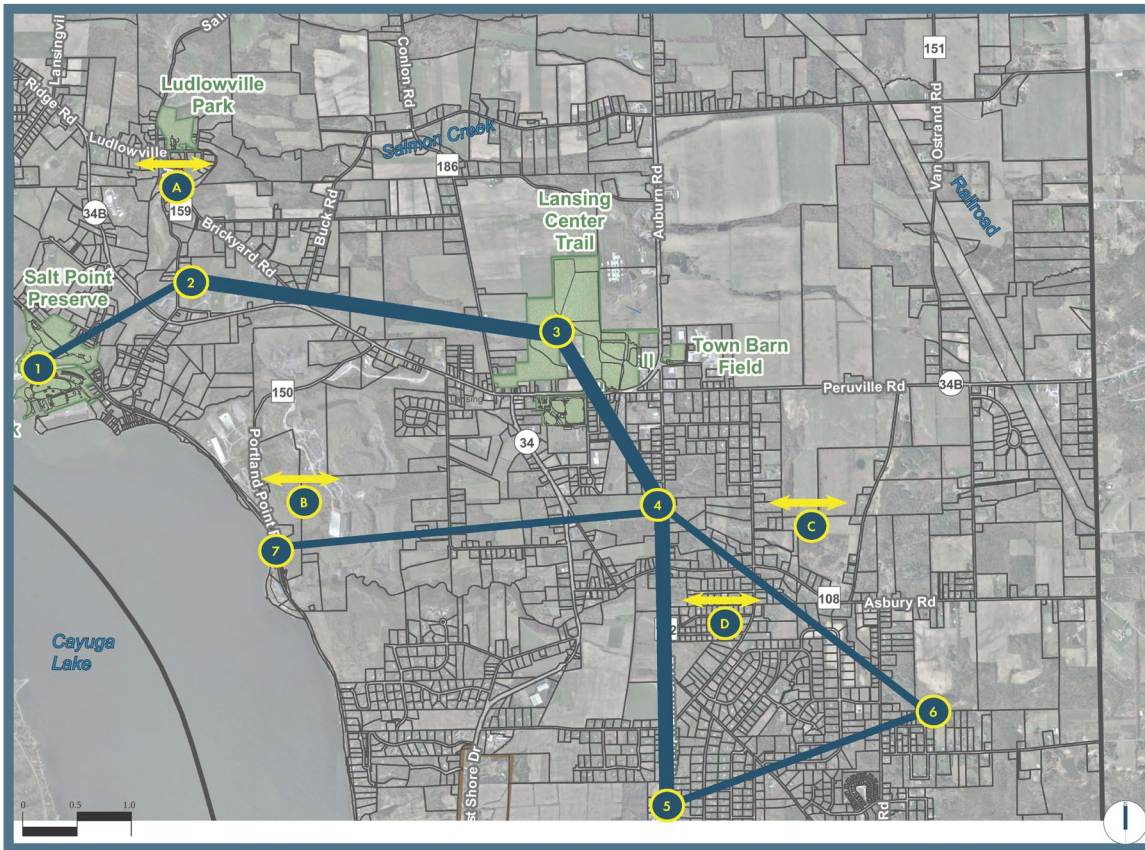
The trail will be maintained by the Town Parks & Recreation Department, just like any other town facility or park.



Ludlowville Falls by: Steve Lauzun

TRAIL LOCATION

The map of major nodes to be connected by the Lansing Greenway remains essentially unchanged from the 2022 Recreation Master Plan.



The trail will connect families to parks, schools and other centers of community life in Lansing.

Lansing Greenway Major Nodes

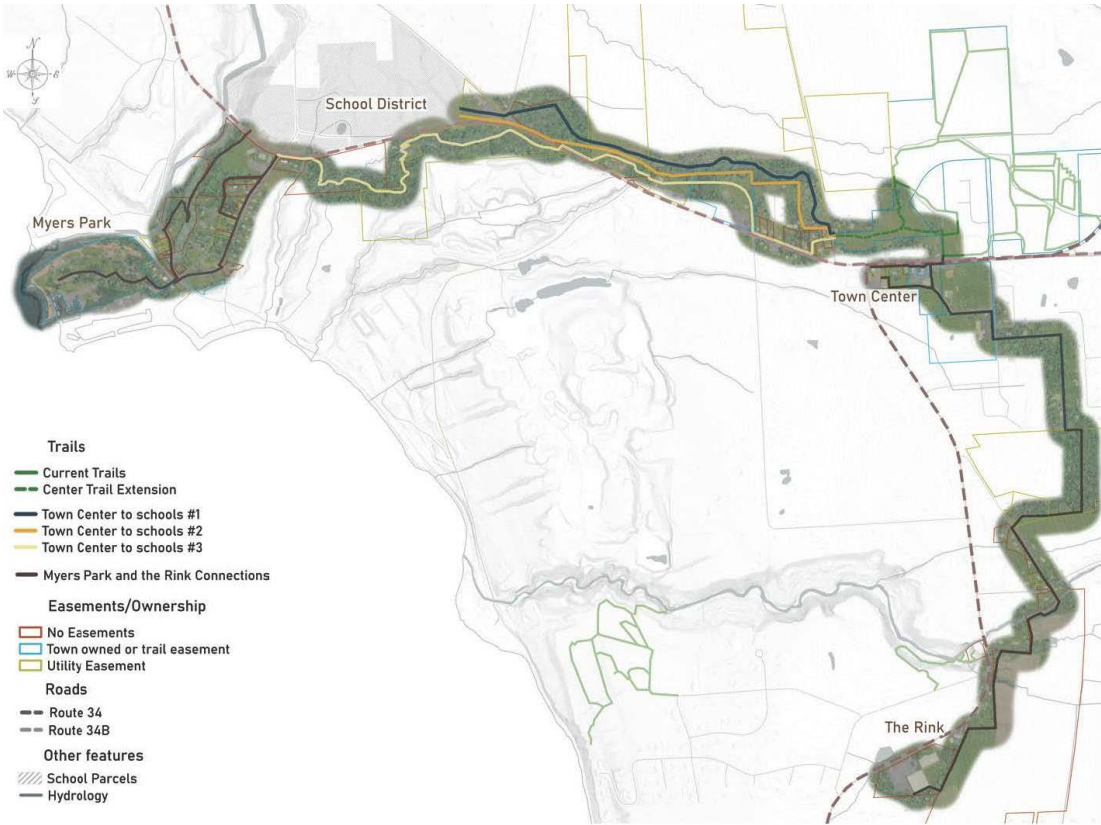
- Town Center
- Lansing Schools Campus
- Myers Park / Salt Point
- The Rink / Jonas Falls
- Village of Lansing / YMCA

Neighborhood Connections

With the main trail sections in place, spurs can be created to connect Lansing's neighborhoods to the Greenway.

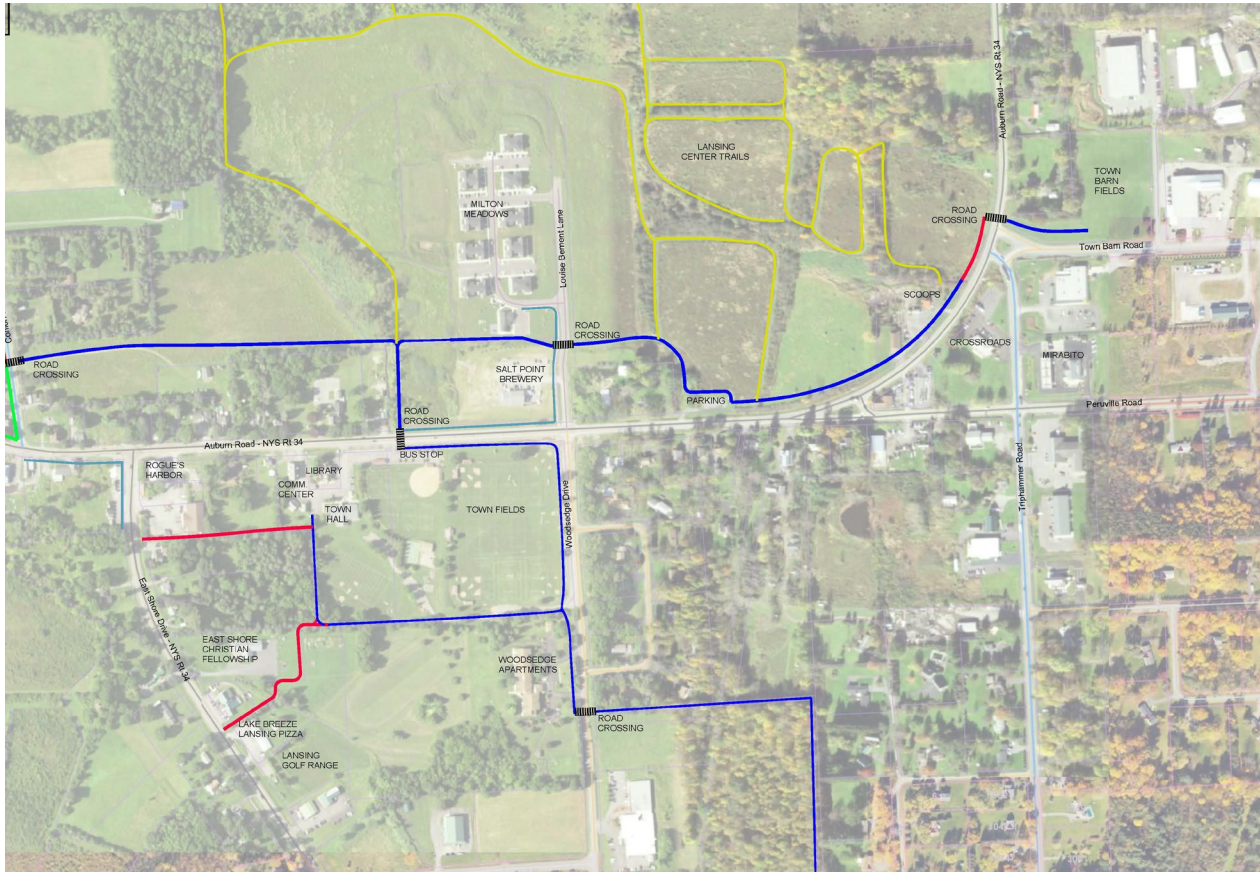
TRAIL ROUTES

As planning for sections of the Lansing Greenway progress, maps with alternate trail routes will be developed, as shown below from a project created by Cornell Design Connect students.



INITIAL PHASE OF THE GREENWAY

The first phase of the Lansing Greenway could be in the town center as most of the land is owned by the Town and two easements needed are already in place,



The Town Center Greenway will connect to:

- Town Barn Fields
- Town Center Trails
- Milton Meadows
- Lansing Library
- Community Center
- Town Hall
- Town Ballfields
- Woodsedge Apartments

Spurs could be created to connects to nearby businesses, restaurants and churches.

INITIAL PHASE OF THE GREENWAY

A walking trail around the Town Ball Fields is part of the 2022 Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan



Town of Lansing Parks, Recreation, & Trails Master Plan



NEXT STEPS

Outreach – talk to groups and residents about the Greenway and improve the plan based on feedback.

Brochure & Video – create an informational brochure and drone video of the phase-1 Greenway.

Funding Plan – do detailed research on the various grants and create a Greenway funding plan.

Route Planning – continue researching possible trail routes.

Phase-1 – Town Center Greenway

- ✓ Aligned with Recreation Master Plan
 - ✓ Ownership or Easement Agreements in Place
 - ☐ Feasibility Study / Cost Estimate
- Then - Apply for Construction Grant

For Future Phases - Comprehensive Trail Plan – apply for a grant to engage a consultant to create a trail plan that becomes part of the overall Town Comp Plan.

Need Town Board approval to apply for a zero-match feasibility study grant through Tompkins County Tourism Council.



CREDITS

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Parks & Trails New York

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