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City of Novi 45175 W. Ten Mile Road Novi, Michigan 48375 248.347.0460 248.347.0577 fex June 28, 2012

Kenneth Gutman, Superintendent of Schools Walled Lake Consolidated Schools 850 Ladd Rd, Bldg. D Walled Lake, MI 48390

RE: Safe Routes to Schools

Dear Mr. Gutman:

Thanks for meeting with us to discuss the possibility of partnering together to start a Safe Routes to School (SR2S) program planning process. I wanted to follow up with this letter to highlight our discussion of the two best possibilities for initial pathway improvements and to share action taken by the City Council following our meeting regarding the acquisition of some property near Hickory Woods Elementary School.

First, near Geisler Middle School, we agreed that the best initial investment would be related to the Pontiac Trail pedestrian crossing near the entrance to the school. Our Engineering Division will review the proposed signal improvements associated with the pedestrian crossing and help coordinate with RCOC's traffic operations, as we routinely work with RCOC staff on signal improvement projects. Also, we'd be happy to work with you on any further study of pedestrian improvements in this area.

Second, near Hickory Woods Elementary School, an opportunity came up for the City to purchase two tax-foreclosed properties fronting on East Lake Drive and backing up to the school property. While the cost of the two properties amounts to about \$56,000, we believe that there is a valuable public benefit in acquiring the properties as an alternative to the proposed pathway location we discussed along New Court (please see attached location map). We believe these properties provide better flexibility and an opportunity for the City of Novi and the School District to work together to provide the public a safe route to the school (along with the associated public recreation and other facilities). We are excited about this possibility and suggest working together to review these two properties for possible pedestrian connections to be constructed with a Safe Route to Schools Grant or other funding.

Thanks again for meeting with us. We look forward to continued discussions about the two areas most in need of attention.

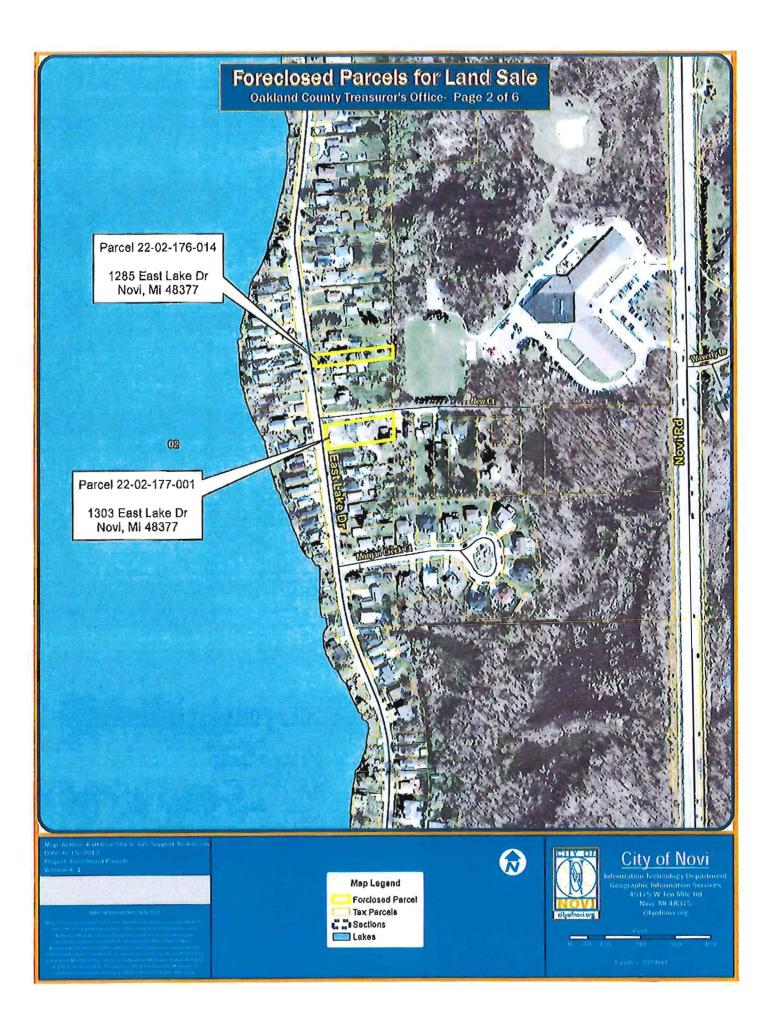
Sincerely,

Burbon Mill, 12-

Barbara McBeth Deputy Director of Community Development

C Clay Pearson, Clty Manager Rob Hayes, PE, Director of Public Works and Clty Engineering

cityofnovi.org



Hi Mark,

John Garbacik from Yorkshire sub called today concerned about a path which is located at the end of Emerald Forest and goes into Simmons Orchard. Apparently it was established to provide access to an elementary school at one time, and then Parkview opened and redistricting occurred and the path is no longer needed, and Mr. Garbacik says in disrepair. He is concerned that perhaps it is being looked at as a possible bike pathway in the City.

Would you please follow up with him regarding his concerns?

He can be reached 248 xxx-xxxx

Thank you,

Robin A. Working | Communications Assistant

From: April Neuwirth Sent: Wednesday, June 06, 2012 4:46 PM To: Community Relations Subject: Bike route signs

I just read the Keeping you Posted e-mail, and I am quite disturbed by the fact that yet more signs are going to be set up in Novi. For the most part, anyone biking in Novi/Northville likely lives there, and does not need signs to direct them to key locations. Who doesn't know where the library is? Or the Civic Center? Or the high school? Surely, if someone's intent is to ride their bike to one of these locations, then they already know where it is! In my opinion, and in other residents that I have spoken with, adding more signs is just eye pollution for Novi.

Please forward this comment to the appropriate person/persons.

April Neuwirth Novi resident 248-

Response

Good afternoon Ms. Neuwirth,

Thank you for your comments and interest in the City of Novi's bike route signing program. We appreciate your concern and understand that too many signs can clutter the landscape. The number of proposed signs for the upcoming project was kept to the minimum needed to provide a clear route. The City will install one or more sign panels on 30 posts for the 3.2 miles of bicycle route. This equates to about five sign posts per directional mile of bike route.

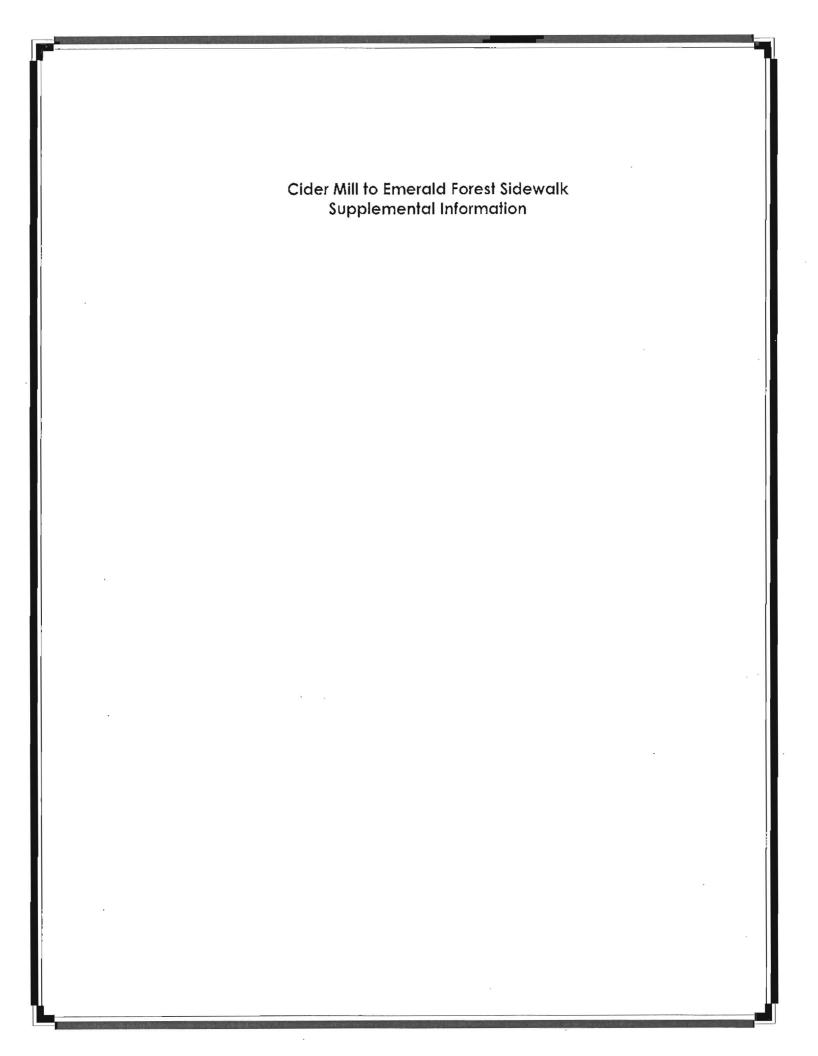
Local roads provide great bicycle transportation opportunities, especially for people who prefer to not be along a major road. These "Neighborhood Connector Routes" are primarily planned to be located on low speed, low traffic volume local roads and connecting pathways. Although many people living in Novi neighborhoods know the most bike-able route to a destination, signs provide route identification to someone who is not as familiar or new to the area. Additionally, bike route signs help to promote bicycling in general and alert motorist that bicyclists will be using the road.

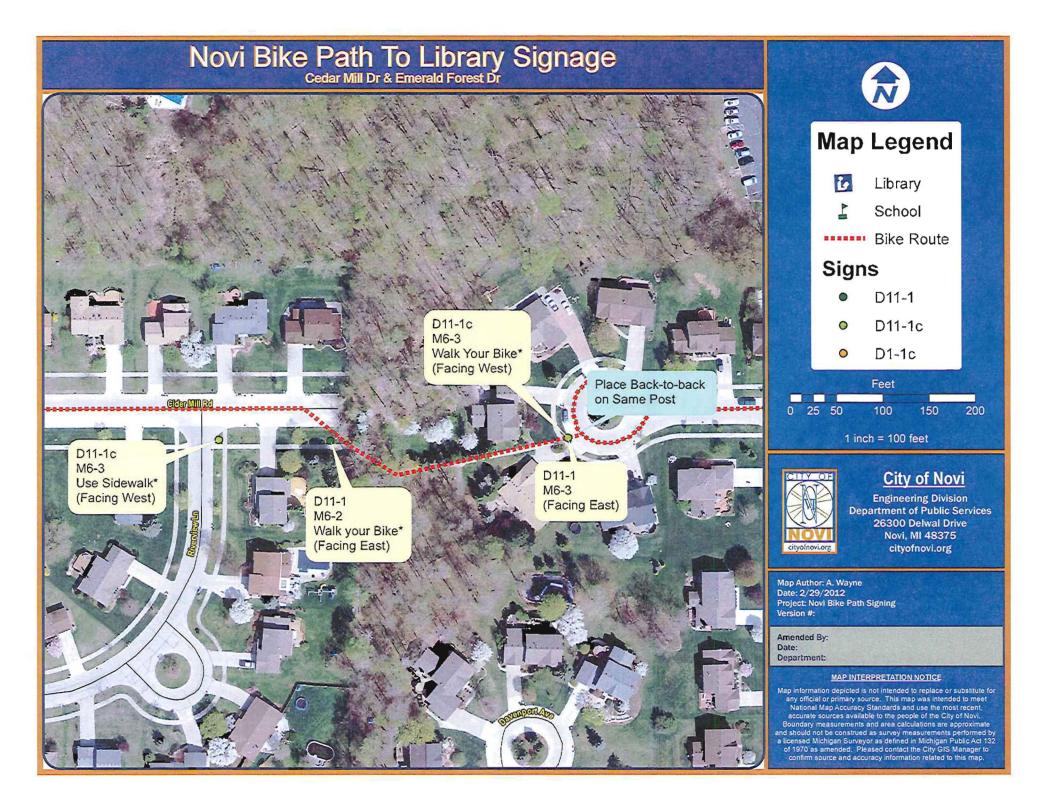
The route signage is part of the implementation of the 2011 Non-Motorized Master Plan, which you can view by clicking on the link: <u>http://cityofnovi.org/Community/PathwaysAndSidewalks.asp</u>.

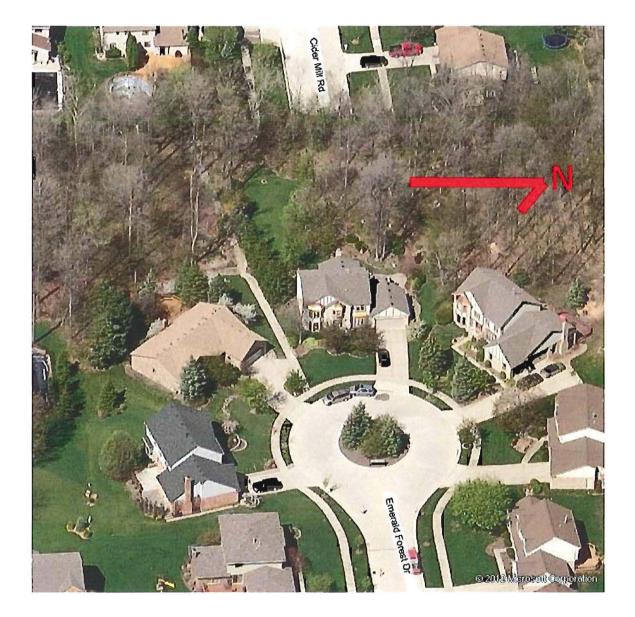
Again, thank you for your comments. If you have any additional questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact Mark Spencer in our Community Development Department at <u>mspencer@cityofnovi.org</u> or 248.735.5607.

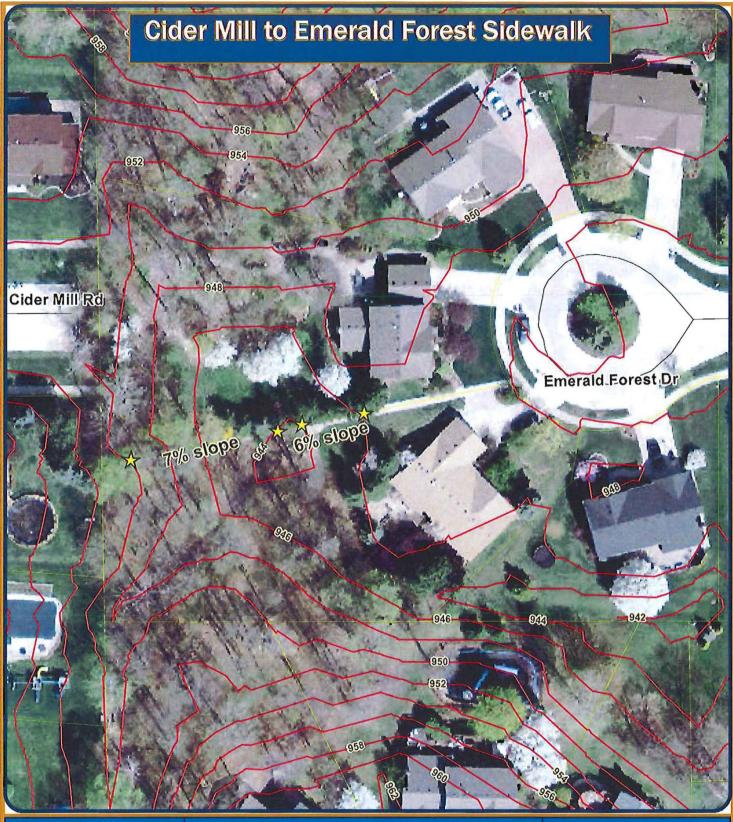
Regards,

Tracle Ringle | Communications Specialist









Map Author: Mark Spencer, AICP Date: 7/5/12 Project: Cider Mill to Emerald Forest Version #: 1.0



- Contours 2 ft



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