

How to Finish the B2B Trail in Central Ann Arbor

The Border-to-Border (B2B) Trail is a 35-mile greenway under development across Washtenaw County along and near the Huron River. Most of the trail has been built, and additional parts are scheduled for construction. Of the remaining gaps, three of the most annoying and dangerous are in Ann Arbor.

This document describes the projects that need to be built to remove those gaps and to make important connections to the trail. These projects, in some form, are all in Ann Arbor's Non-motorized Transportation Plan and/or Ann Arbor's Parks & Recreation Open Space Plan. These plans recognize the trail's benefits for health, sustainability, safety, park accessibility, non-motorized travel, and quality of life.

Projects to build (see keyed illustrations on the following pages):

1. Trail connections to existing underpass where Fuller Rd. crosses Huron River.
2. Non-motorized bridge over Huron River (just west of Maiden Lane) connecting Riverside Park to Fuller Park, with trail connecting the bridge to the existing trail in Fuller Park via the existing Maiden Lane underpass.
3. Trail connections to the existing underpass where East Medical Center Drive crosses the railroad.
4. Completing the trail loop to the existing underpass where Fuller/Glen crosses the railroad to connect to the new river bridge.
5. Connection between Bandemer Park and Huron River Drive / Barton Park, preferably with an underpass under the railroad north of M-14.

Steps for Park Advisory Commission:

Pass a resolution asking City Council to address the needs:

1. Designing the projects.
2. Preparing construction budgets.
3. Applying for construction funding.

Steps for City Council:

1. Give these projects priority in the Capital Improvements Plan.
2. Allocate funding for designing the projects.
3. Direct staff to prepare construction budgets and apply for funding.

Suggested target construction schedule (by project number in list above):

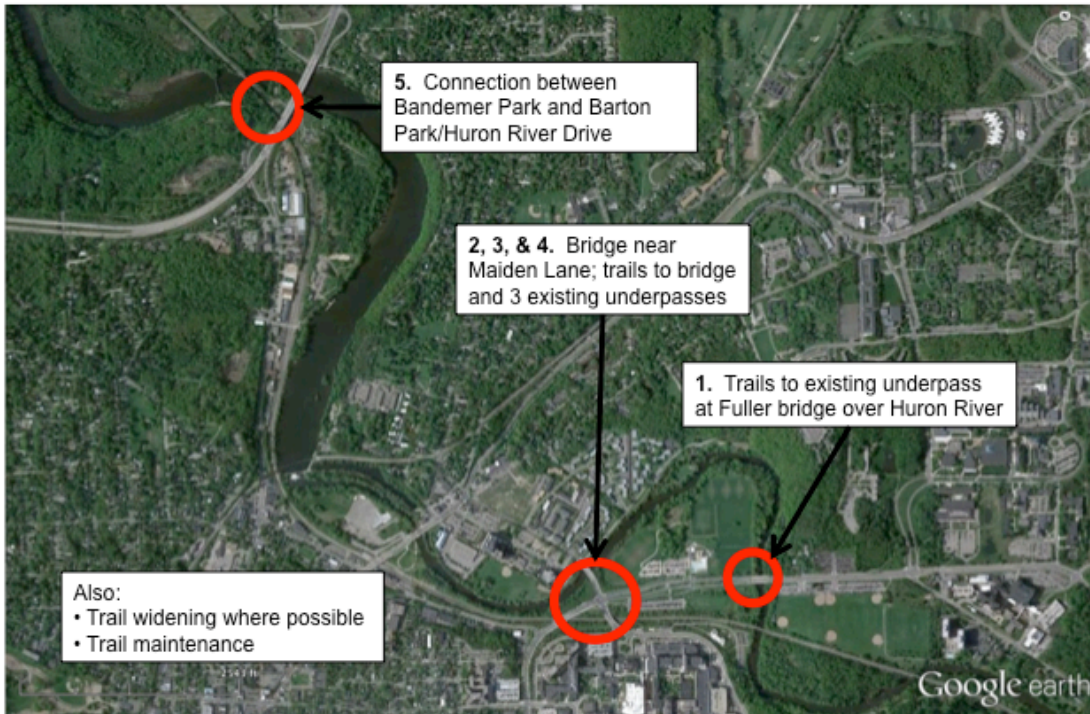
2016 -- #1
2017 -- #2
2018 -- #3 & #4
2019 -- #5

(This schedule needs to be flexible to align with funding opportunities.)

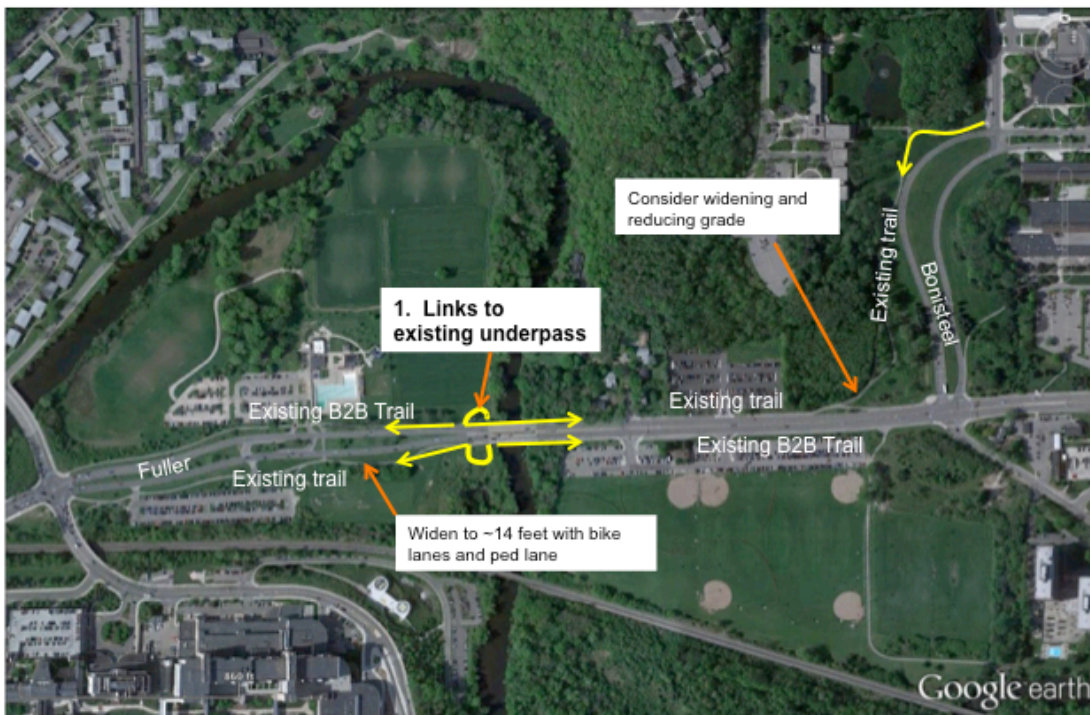
Projects to evaluate and plan:

6. Connection to the B2B Trail from the Main/Depot area, probably via a railroad underpass that could also mitigate flooding.
7. Connection to the B2B Trail in Gallup Park from the Arboretum, probably via a railroad underpass.
8. The trail possibility north of the railroad and south of the Huron River between Fuller/Glen and Broadway.

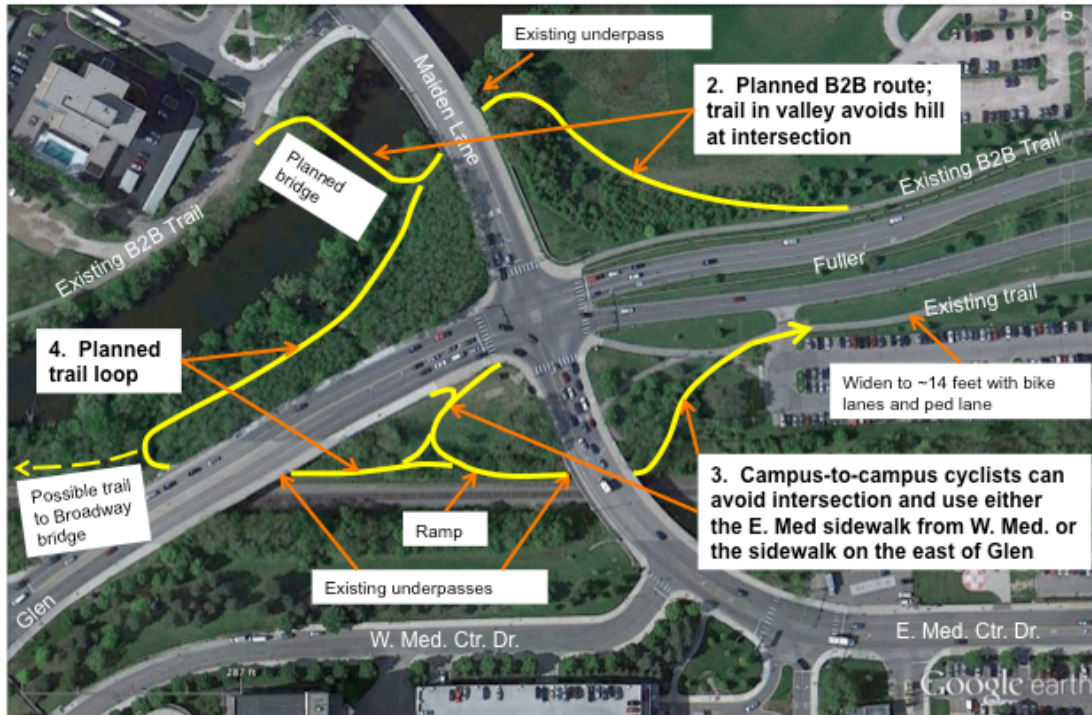
Overview of B2B priorities in Ann Arbor



Fuller / Huron River vicinity



Fuller / Maiden Lane intersection area



Bandemer Park – Barton Park connection

