



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD – REGULAR MEETING  
April 28, 2026 6:00 pm

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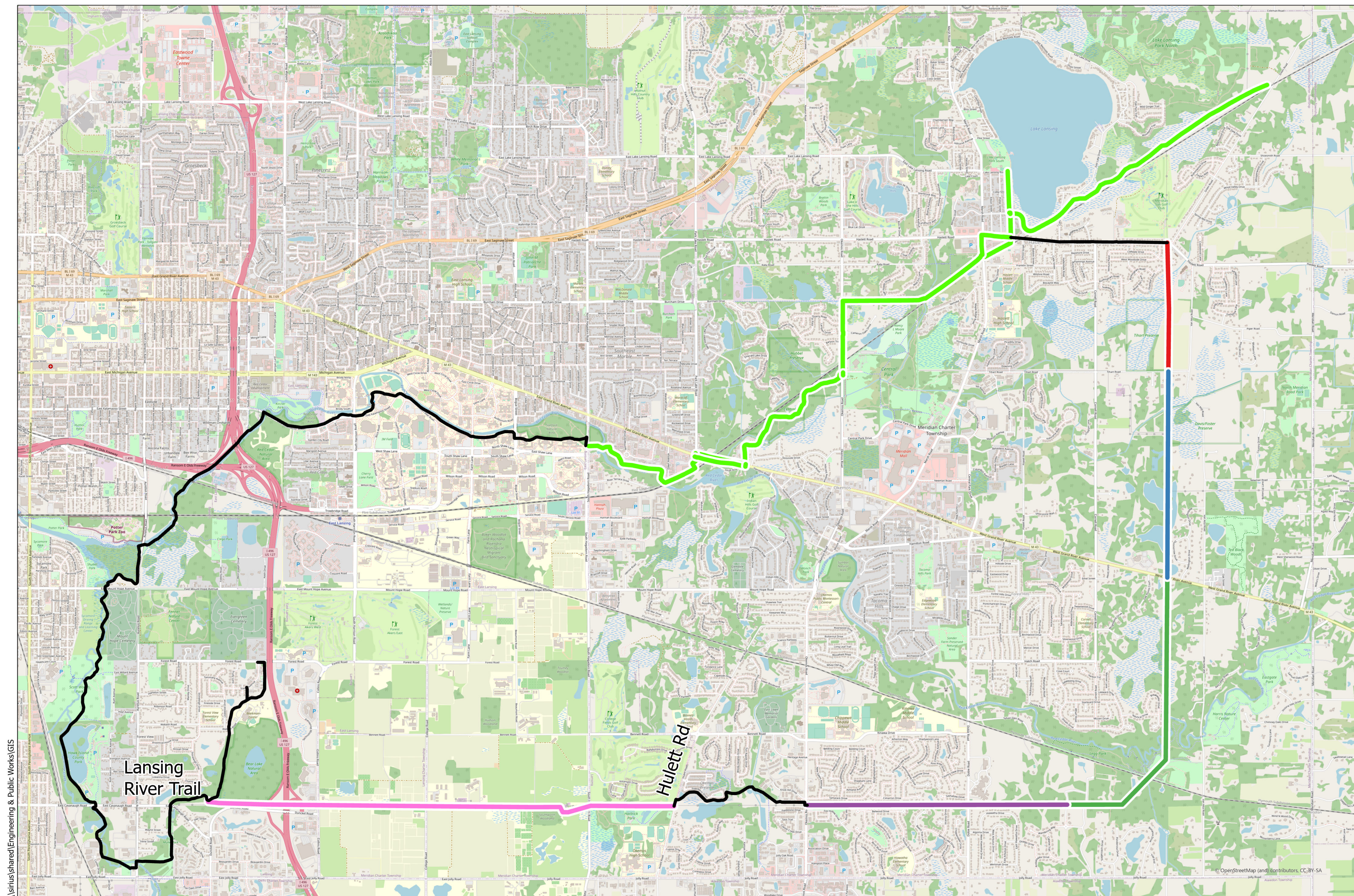
1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTION OF MERIDIAN BOARD
4. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. INTRODUCTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS PRESENT
7. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES OF JOINT INTEREST
  - A. Regional Trails and Pathways
  - B. Local Control
  - C. Development Projects
  - D. Affordable Housing
  - E. Major Road Projects
  - F. Partner Updates
8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
9. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
10. ADJOURNMENT

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All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained from the Supervisor.  
Appointment of Supervisor Pro Tem and/ or Temporary Clerk if necessary.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting:  
Township Manager Tim Dempsey, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.  
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall

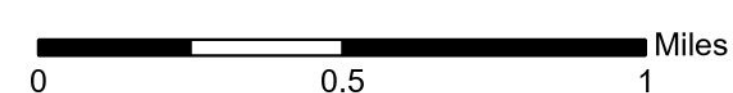
# Proposed Future Pathway Connections



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Scale: 1:20,000



- MSU to Lake Lansing Pathway
- Eastern Trail Phases 1
- Eastern Trail Phases 2
- 3
- 4
- Connection to Lansing River Trail
- Existing Pathways

## **Preliminary Schedule for the Eastern-Third Regional Trail**

This preliminary schedule for the Eastern-Third Regional Trail assumes that there would be adequate funding from the Ingham County Trails & Parks Millage. The millage is up for renewal this year, so all four phases are dependent upon the millage being renewed.

Phase I is funded under the current renewal, should it pass. If the millage is renewed, the Township will likely apply for funding for Phase II during the next call for projects.

This preliminary schedule also assumes that there would be adequate funding on the next renewal in 2032 to fund Phases III and IV concurrently. Even if the millage is renewed on an ongoing basis, there may not be adequate funding for Phases III and IV to be constructed concurrently.

### **Phase I (Haslett Road to Tihart Road):**

2024: Secured \$1,080,000 Ingham County Parks & Trails Millage (Grant Funding allows for spending beginning in 2029)

2024: Easement was secured on Parcel # 33-02-02-11-481-028.

2027-2028:

- Design the trail
- Obtain Land Preservation Advisory Board approval for the portion of the trail to be constructed across the Tihart Preserve.
- Bid the project in late 2028

2029: Construction

### **Phase II (Tihart Road to Grand River Ave):**

2026 or 2027: Apply for a grant during the next call for projects from the Ingham County Parks & Trails Millage.

2028-2030: Design and secure easements for the trail from Consumers Energy.

2031-2032: This is the earliest that funding from the Ingham County Parks & Trails Millage would be available as funding through 2030 has already been awarded under existing grant agreements. If grant funding is secured, the project can be designed, and all necessary land can be acquired, it is possible that the project could be constructed in 2031 or 2032.

### **Phase III (Grand River Ave to Dobie Road):**

2032-2033: Assuming the Ingham County Parks & Trails millage is renewed once again in 2032, apply for a grant during the first call for projects from the Ingham County Parks & Trails Millage.

2033-2036: Design and secure easements for the trail from Consumers Energy.

2036-2038: Construction

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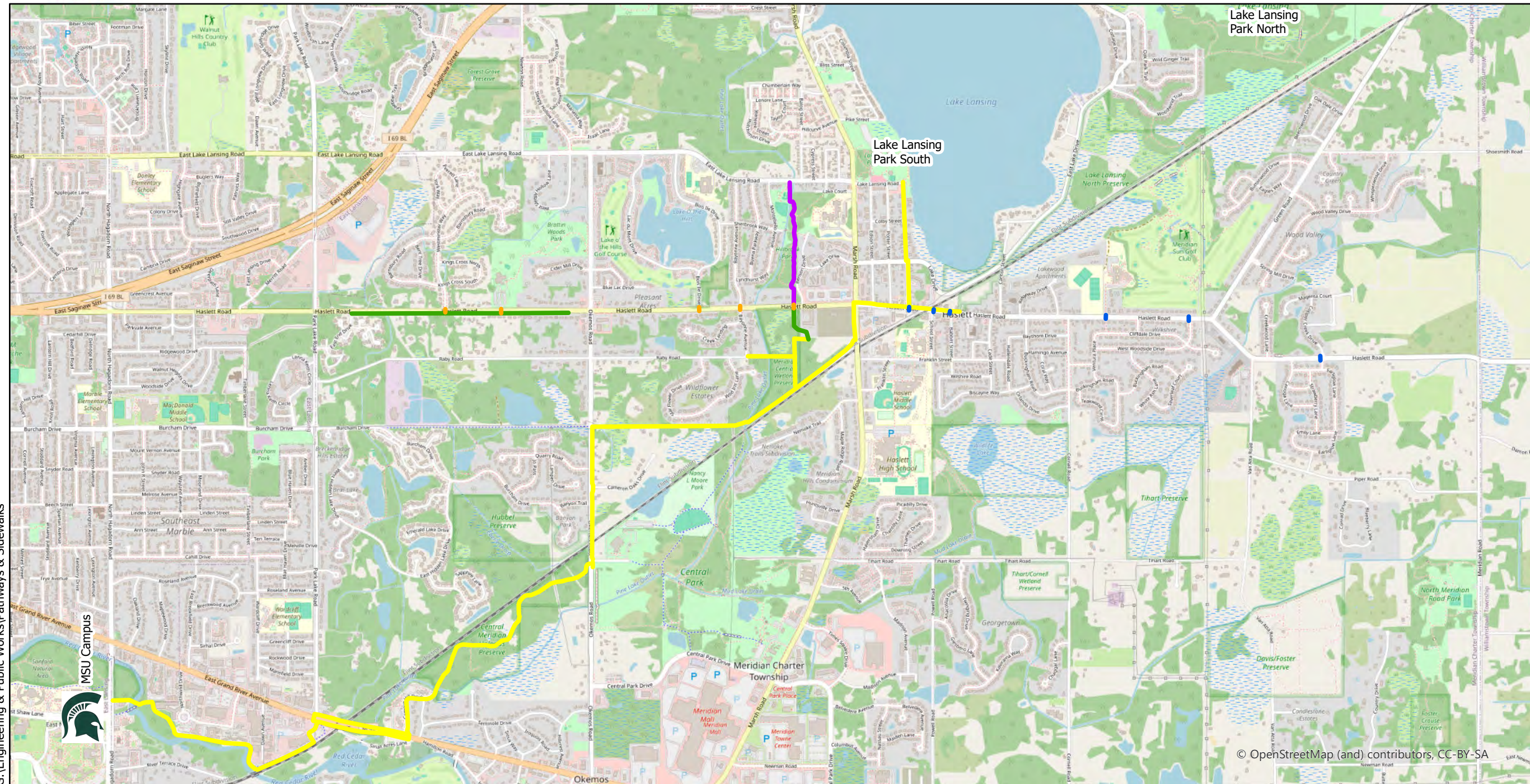
**Phase IV (Dobie Road to Okemos Road):**

2032-2033: Assuming the Ingham County Parks & Trails millage is renewed once again, apply for a grant during the first call for projects from the Ingham County Parks & Trails Millage.

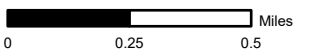
2033-2036: Design and secure easements for the trail from Consumers Energy.

2036-2038: Construction

# Haslett Road Pathway Construction Schedule Map



Scale: 1:25,000





Questions?  
517.853.4440  
dpw@meridian.mi.us  
Updated: 12/30/25


G:\Engineering & Public Works\Pathways & Sidewalks


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The Township is funding a Haslett Road Corridor Study to determine if it is feasible for the Ingham County Road Department (ICRD) to implement a road diet on Haslett Road from Park Lake Road to Marsh Road. Part of this study includes preparing a grant application to fund implementation of a road diet. If a road diet is ultimately implemented, it could make it feasible to construct pedestrian refuge islands as part of the proposed and existing crosswalks shown below. [Click here and refer to pages 142-241 for additional information regarding the Haslett Road Corridor Study.](#)

 Existing trails and pathways that are a part of the MSU to Lake Lansing Trail

 Existing pedestrian crosswalks the Township is attempting to secure funding and permitting for. These crosswalks could possibly be enhanced with flashing beacon crossing infrastructure, also known as RRFBs. Construction year is to be determined.

 Pathway that will be constructed in 2026.

 Future off-road trail through Hillbrook Park that will complete the connection from Lake Lansing Road to the Inter Urban/MSU to Lake Lansing Trail. Construction year is to be determined.

 Proposed pedestrian crosswalks the Township is attempting to secure funding and permitting for. If funding and permitting can be obtained, these proposed crosswalks could possibly include flashing beacon crossing infrastructure, also known as RRFBs. Construction year is to be determined.



## Partnership not preemption

# Protecting local decision-making while supporting attainable housing

Recent legislation seeking to increase affordable housing across the state would strip locally elected officials of their decision-making authority, dismiss extensive community planning work and investment, and amount to a clear override from Lansing on local voices and voter-backed decisions. We know that decisions and discussion over issues that impact your community belong at the local level—allowing elected leaders, planning and zoning officials, residents and property owners to work together to help shape the place they call home, in a responsible, responsive manner based on community wants and needs. Top-down, state mandates that dictate how your community should look and grow will only weaken our neighborhoods and lack local accountability.

The legislation solely places the blame on local governments rather than tackle true impacts on housing costs, including rising costs of materials and labor, state requirements, high interest rates, and complex market dynamics. Sweeping state mandates oversimplify housing challenges, ignore the unique needs and circumstances of Michigan's diverse communities, and leave decisions to developers.

### **If passed, House Bills 5529-5531 and 5581-5585 would:**

- Mandate minimum lot requirements to no greater than 1,500 square feet if the parcel is served by public sewer and water (not simply municipal), including on-site systems
- Mandate minimum lot setbacks (15 feet from front lot line, five feet from side and rear) and prohibit minimum dwelling size requirements more than 500 square feet in communities located in or adjacent to a metropolitan statistical area—impacting 662 townships
- Mandate accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and duplexes by right and mandate mobile homes be allowed in all residential zones
- Require site plan review process to be completed in 60 days—limiting a local jurisdiction's ability to have additional studies done after preliminary site plan approval
- Limit required parking requirements to no more than one space per dwelling for multi-family units

**MTA and a coalition of organizations representing local governments are committed to working with lawmakers to find solutions to provide affordable housing and preserve local authority as communities balance housing, infrastructure, economic growth, community identity and natural resources.** We need your voices now to share your opposition to this attack on local land use authority and join our efforts to protect local decision-making. Ask your lawmakers to stand with Michigan communities and residents and retain decision-making authority on matters that impact your community every day.

**Your engagement is critical to our efforts to retain local decision-making.**



# Community decision-making

## Keeping the power in the hands of the people

Townships are the form of government designed to be closest to the people and most responsive to their residents' basic needs. Too often, however, legislation is considered that erodes local decisions that shape Michigan's townships. It is essential to educate lawmakers as to why local control issues—such as land use planning and zoning decisions, and the effect property tax exemptions have on all local units—are so critically important. Communities should have a voice in addressing issues impacting their neighborhoods, health, safety and residents' quality of life.

### **MTA supports measures that return revenue to and invests in municipalities, such as:**

- Supporting a revenue sharing system so that all local governments continue to receive statutory revenue sharing
  - *FY 2025 was the first time in two decades that 100% of townships received statutory (CVT) revenue sharing*
- Providing stability for local governments by establishing a revenue sharing trust fund that dedicates a portion of sales tax revenue to ensure reliable funding
- Ensuring any property tax reforms do not negatively impact local revenues
- Providing state reimbursement to local units for lost property tax revenue due to the disabled veterans' property tax exemption and other property tax exemptions
- Expanding essential infrastructure access for all communities

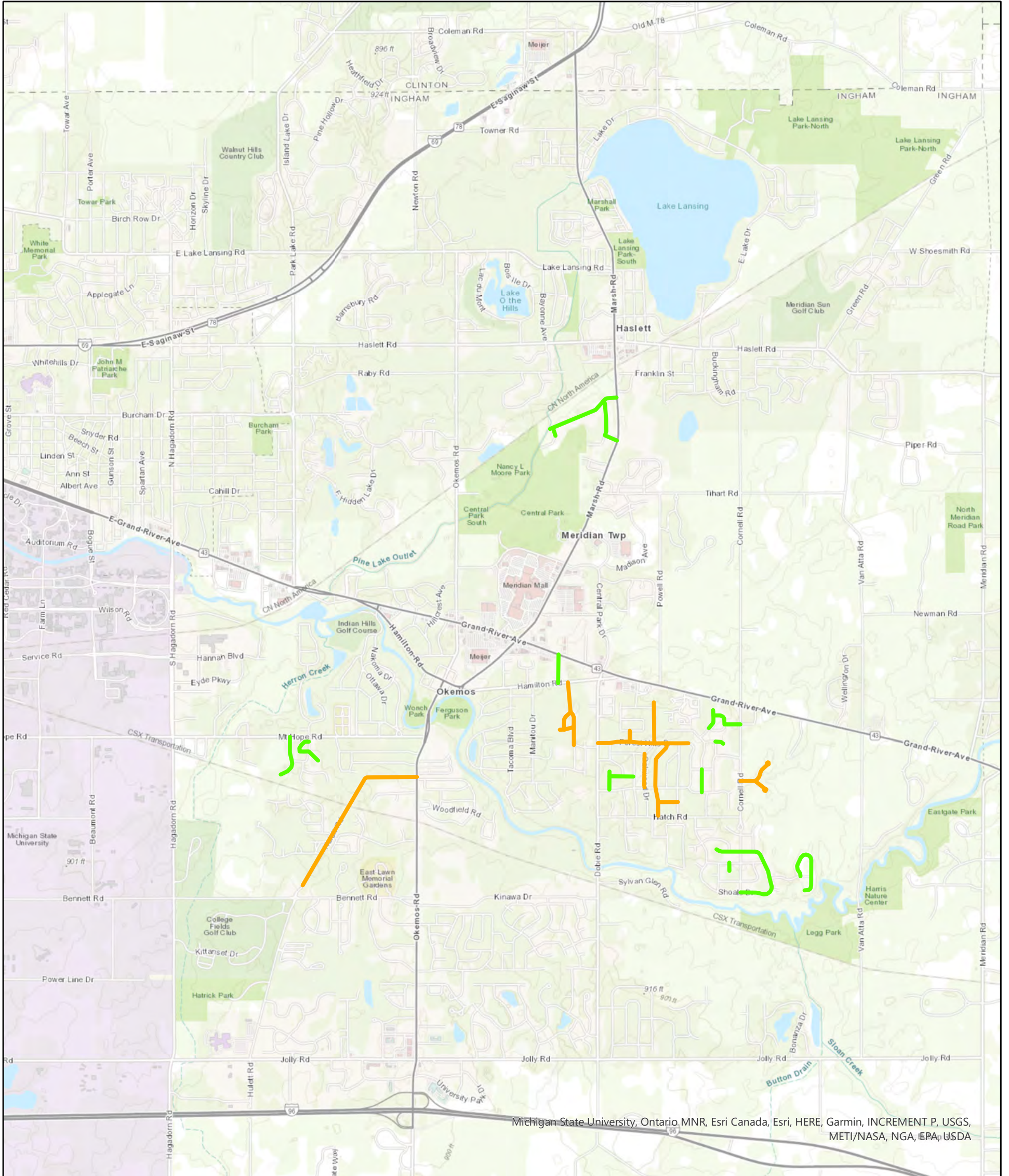
### **MTA opposes measures that further erode local decision-making and funding, creating negative consequences for communities working to plan for their unique characteristics and the community's future:**

- Stripping townships of their zoning authority and oversight capability in their communities by creating a one-size-fits-all approach, including state housing mandates and for short-term rentals
- Property tax exemptions affecting local tax revenue without reimbursement

### **MTA supports enacting laws that modernize township operations:**

- Meeting local needs for public safety and public infrastructure
- Ensuring adequate funding for the administration of elections
- Allowing public notices to be posted on a township's established website—saving taxpayers money
- Updating the Open Meetings Act and allowing remote participation on a limited basis

# MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP 2026 LOCAL ROAD PROGRAM



Michigan State University, Ontario MNR, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, NGA, IEPA, USDA

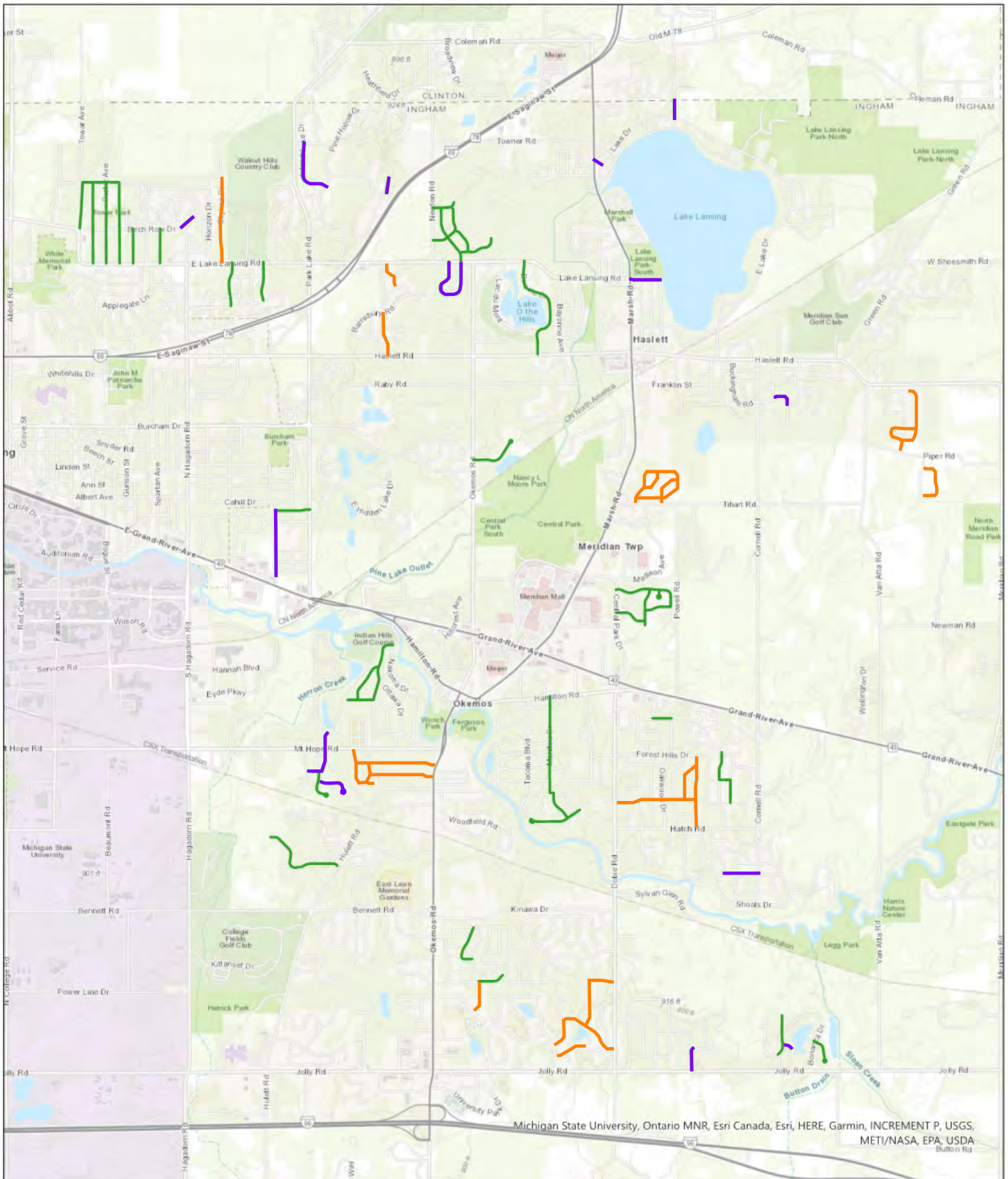


## Legend

- Reconstruction of Roads without Curb & Gutter (3.74 miles)
- Reconstruction of Roads with Curb & Gutter (3.74 miles)

# MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP

## 2026 Mobilization Map (Crack Treatment)



### Legend



- HMA Crack Treatment, With Previous Crack Treatment (10.75 Miles)
- HMA Crack Treatment, Without Previous Crack Treatment (2.90 Miles)
- HMA Crack Treatment, 2023 Overlay Roads (6.85 Miles)