

Long term Maintenance of Greenways in Michigan  
Possible Funding Sources

**Fees from users**

WHAT	PROS	CONS
Pay boxes on trails	<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
Allocate portion of vehicle title fee	<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>
Allocate portion of the gas tax	<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>
Real Estate Transfer tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Establish recreational authorities	<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>
Lottery Funds	<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>