



DetroitGreenways.org – P.O. Box 32013, Detroit, Michigan 48232
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June 3, 2024

Economic Development and Small Business House Committee:

The Detroit Greenways Coalition supports House Bills 5768, 5769 and 5770, which make changes to economic development investments by the state. We believe these changes will greatly increase the quality of life for residents, help retain young talent, and attract new businesses to Michigan.

We applaud the substantial investment in public transit through the proposed Michigan Mobility Trust. The lack of adequate funding for public transit greatly affects level of service and ridership. As a regular transit rider, we know first-hand how long bus headways make public transit more stressful and less reliable. Michigan must prioritize better transit, not only for the reasons mentioned above, but for reducing the carbon emissions in our transportation system.

The Michigan Mobility Trust does not have to fund non-motorized and trail infrastructure. There are many funding sources for this infrastructure that are not available to transit. Often the issue is not a lack of funding, but an unwillingness to use the existing funding. Besides, public transit makes non-motorized transportation work across longer distances. It helps connect people to trails, parks, and more. That said, we would suggest the “first and last mile transportation solutions” criteria within the fund should cover public bike share, which operate similarly to other public transit modes.

We are interested in helping move these bills forward. Please let us know how we can help or if you have any questions about our position on this.

Sincerely:

Todd Scott
Executive Director

Our **Vision** is a strong, healthy, vibrant City of Detroit and surrounding region where a seamless network of greenways, green spaces, blue ways and complete streets is an integral part of people’s active lifestyle including day-to-day transportation and recreation.