

West Michigan Pike Corridor Management Plan

January 2019

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Chapter 1: Introduction and Location

The historic West Michigan Pike comprised a variety of different roadways along Michigan's western shoreline, including US-12, the Red Arrow Highway, South Shore Drive, A2, M-120, Grand Haven Road, US-31, Whitehall Road, and main thoroughfares and side streets through the cities along the original route.

At the turn of the twentieth century, deep ruts and sand made West Michigan roads nearly impassable. In 1911, the West Michigan Lakeshore Highway Association was founded to promote the construction of the first improved highway along Lake Michigan in order to bring auto tourists from Chicago to Michigan to support the new resort industry that grew up when logging ended in the region. Completed in 1922, the West Michigan Pike extended from the Indiana state line to Mackinaw City. It was designated one of the first state trunk lines (M-11) in 1917, as part of the Dixie Highway in 1923, and incorporated into the nation's first federal highway system as US-31 in 1926. Straightened and realigned over the years, it is also known as the Red Arrow and the Blue Star Memorial Highways."

-"West Michigan Pike", Michigan Historical Marker, New Buffalo, MI.

In 2016, the modern day route through these communities was designated as a Pure Michigan Byway – West Michigan Pike. For the purpose of the Pure Michigan Scenic Byway - West Michigan Pike, the designated route follows the State Trunklines listed below:

- US-12 from the Indiana state line south of New Buffalo northerly through New Buffalo to I-94 at Exit 4.
- I-94 from Exit 4 near New Buffalo northerly to BL I-94/Red Arrow Hwy at Exit 23 north of Stevensville.
- BL I-94 from I-94 at Exit 23 northerly through Shoreham and into downtown St Joseph.
- M-63 from downtown St Joseph northerly to I-196/US-31 at Exit 7 near Hagar Shores.
- I-196/US-31 from M-63 at Exit 7 northerly to BL I-196 at Exit 18 south of South Haven.
- Through downtown South Haven via BL I-196 between I-196/US-31 Exits 18 and 20.
- I-196/US-31 from BL I-196 at Exit 20 northerly to the I-196 & US-31 split at Exit 44 south of Holland.
- US-31 from I-196 at Exit 44 northerly past Holland and through Grand Haven to BUS US-31 at Exit 110 in Norton Shores.
- BUS US-31 through downtown Muskegon from US-31 at Exit 110 to jct M-120.

- M-120 from BUS US-31 on the north side of Muskegon northerly and northeasterly to US-31 at Exit 118 near North Muskegon.
- US-31 from M-120 at Exit 118 northerly to BUS US-31 at Whitehall and Montague at Exit 128.
- BUS US-31 through downtown Whitehall and Montague between US-31 Exits 128 and 131.
- US-31 from BUS US-31 northeast of Montague at Exit 131 northerly to BUS US-31 near Pentwater at Exit 154.
- BUS US-31 through Pentwater between US-31 Exits 154 and 158.
- US-31 from BUS US-31 north of Pentwater at Exit 158 to US-10 east of Ludington at Exit 170.

This route passes through the historic Lake Michigan communities of New Buffalo, St. Joseph, Benton Harbor, South Haven, Douglas/Saugatuck, Holland, Grand Haven, Muskegon, Whitehall/Montague, the Silver Lake Sand Dunes area, and Pentwater.

While the modern day West Michigan Pike will follow state trunklines, it is the intent of the corridor management entity, the Michigan Beachtowns Association, to erect signage for both the Heritage Route and the Historic Route through each Beachtowns community. This will give potential visitors two opportunities to experience the West Michigan Pike, depending on their time and taste. The Heritage Route will be a direct route linking each of the Pike communities and a second, more leisurely Historic Route will be independently signed for “Road Trippers” and history buffs.

One challenge of this plan and its implementation will be to get drivers off of the designated byway and into the downtown/interest areas along the original route. This is because the designated byway (US-31) does not follow the actual historic route of the pike. The difference between the designated byway and the historic route is illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1 - West Michigan Pike



Figure 2 - Historic Route



Figure 3 - Designated Route



Jurisdictional Boundaries

The Designated Byway travels through seven counties, eleven cities, five villages and 28 townships. Traveling from the southern Michigan border to Ludington, the Pike traverses the following jurisdictions.

Berrien County

Cities

1. New Buffalo
2. St. Joseph
3. Benton Harbor

Townships

1. New Buffalo Township
2. Chikaming Township
3. Lake Township
4. Lincoln Township
5. St. Joseph Township
6. Sodus Township
7. Benton Township
8. Hagar Township

Van Buren County

Cities

1. South Haven

Townships

1. Covert Township
2. South Haven Township

Allegan County

Cities

1. Saugatuck

Villages

1. Douglas

Townships

1. Ganges Township
2. Saugatuck Township
3. Laketown township
4. Fillmore Township

Ottawa County

Cities

1. Holland
2. Grand Haven
3. Ferrysburg

Townships

1. Park Township
2. Port Sheldon Township
3. Grand Haven Township
4. Spring Lake Township

Muskegon County

Cities

1. Norton Shores
2. Muskegon Heights
3. Muskegon

Villages

1. Lakewood Club

Townships

1. Muskegon Township
2. Dalton Township
3. Whitehall Township
3. Montague Township

Oceana County

Villages

1. Rothbury
2. Hart
3. Pentwater

Townships

1. Grant Township
2. Shelby Township
3. Hart Township
4. Pentwater Township

Mason County

Townships

1. Summit Township
2. Pere Marquette Township

Figure 4 - Jurisdictional Boundaries



Corridor Management Boundaries

Although the actual boundaries of the Byway are the rights-of-way for the highways making up the designated route, one of the primary goals of the Management Committee is to encourage travelers to get off the road and explore the surrounding areas and the historic route. Therefore actual programs centering around the Pike will include activities outside of those boundaries and include the historic route as well as the communities through which the Pike traversed.

Major Roads

The following table shows the major roads which connect to the Designated Byway, which are mainly State trunklines or Interstate highways. Also included are the Red Arrow Highway and the Blue Star Highway, which were part of the original Pike. Maps are included on the following pages showing these roads in the individual counties.

	Major Roads Connecting to Byway	Other Major Roads in County
Berrien County	US-12 US-31 M-63 M-139 Red Arrow Highway	M-51 M-140
Van Buren County	M-43 M-140	I-96 M-40 M-51
Allegan County	M-40 M-89 A2 (Blue Star Highway)	US-196 M-131 M-179
Ottawa County	M-45 M-104	I-96 I-196 M-11 M-121 M-231
Muskegon County	I-96 M-46 M-120	M-37
Oceana County	M-20	
Mason County	US-10	M-116

Figure 5 - Mason County Major Roads

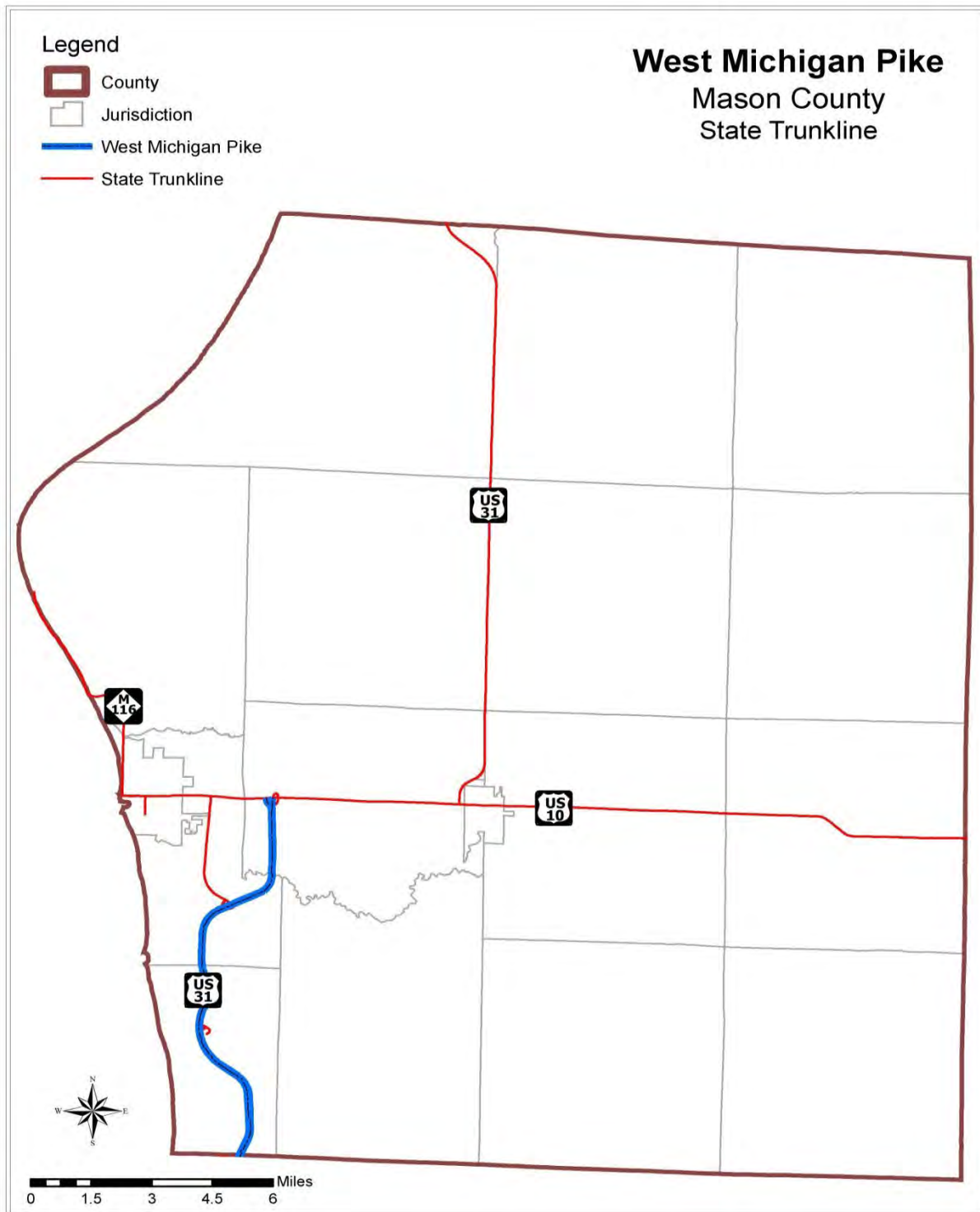


Figure 6 - Oceana County Major Roads

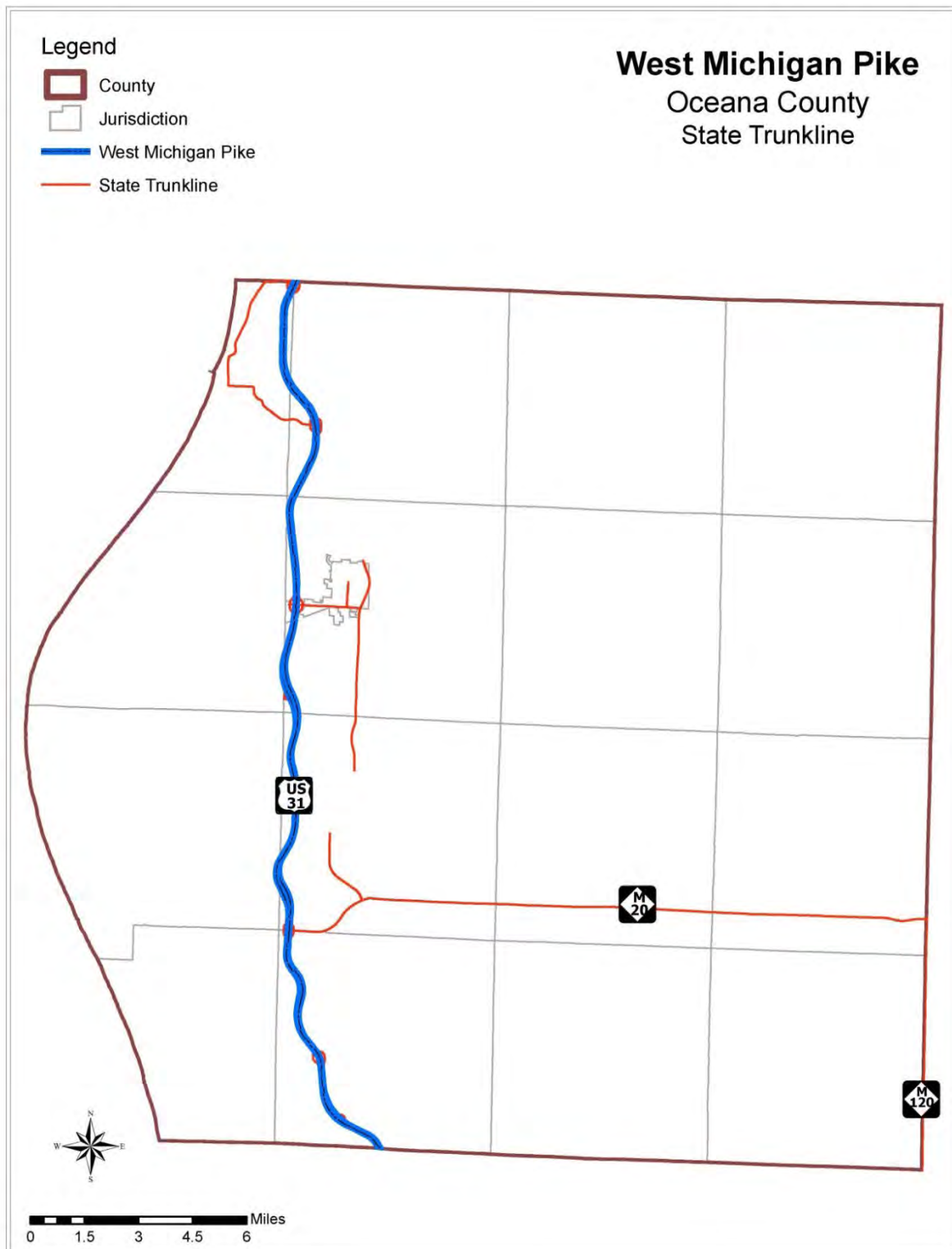


Figure 7 – Muskegon County Major Roads

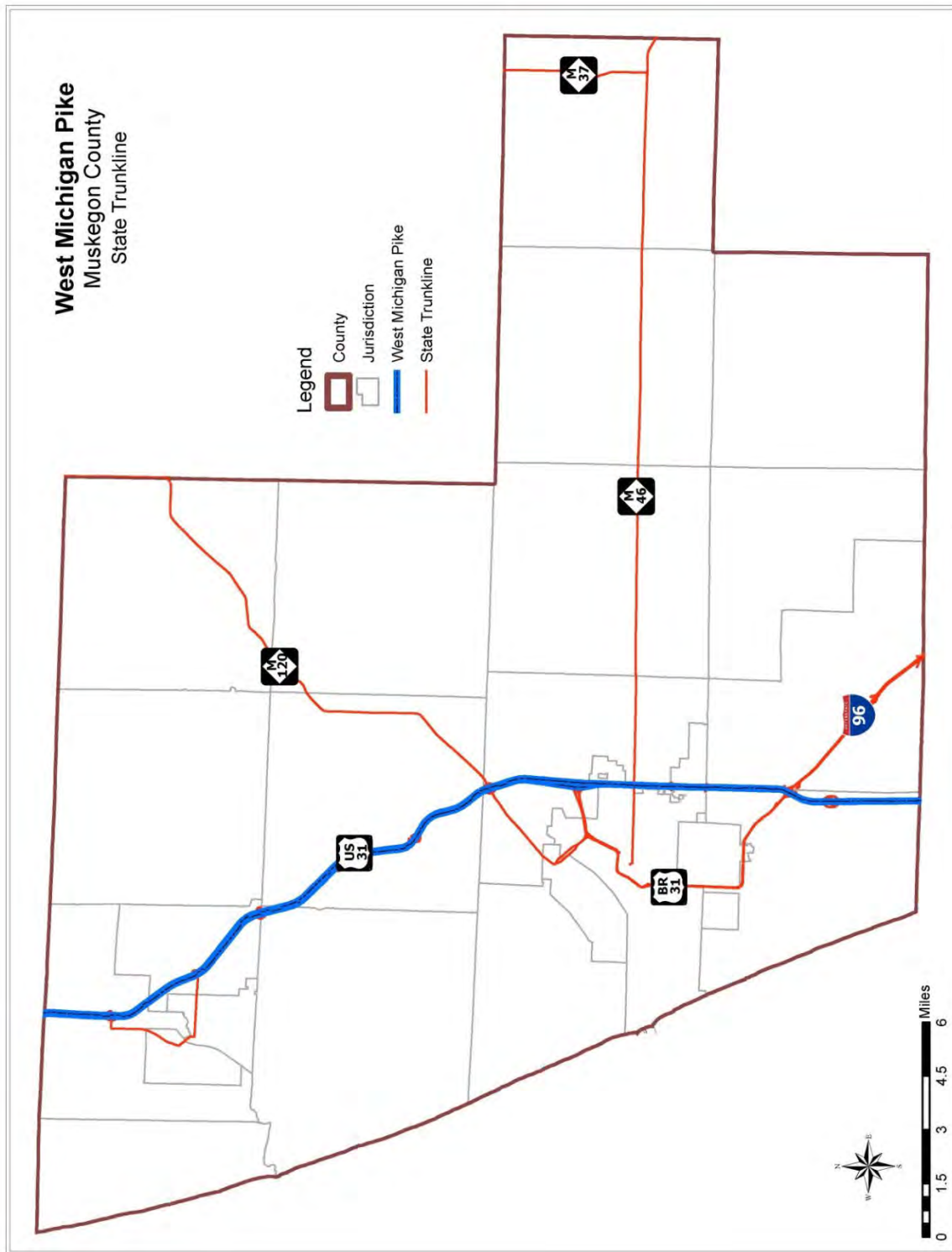


Figure 8

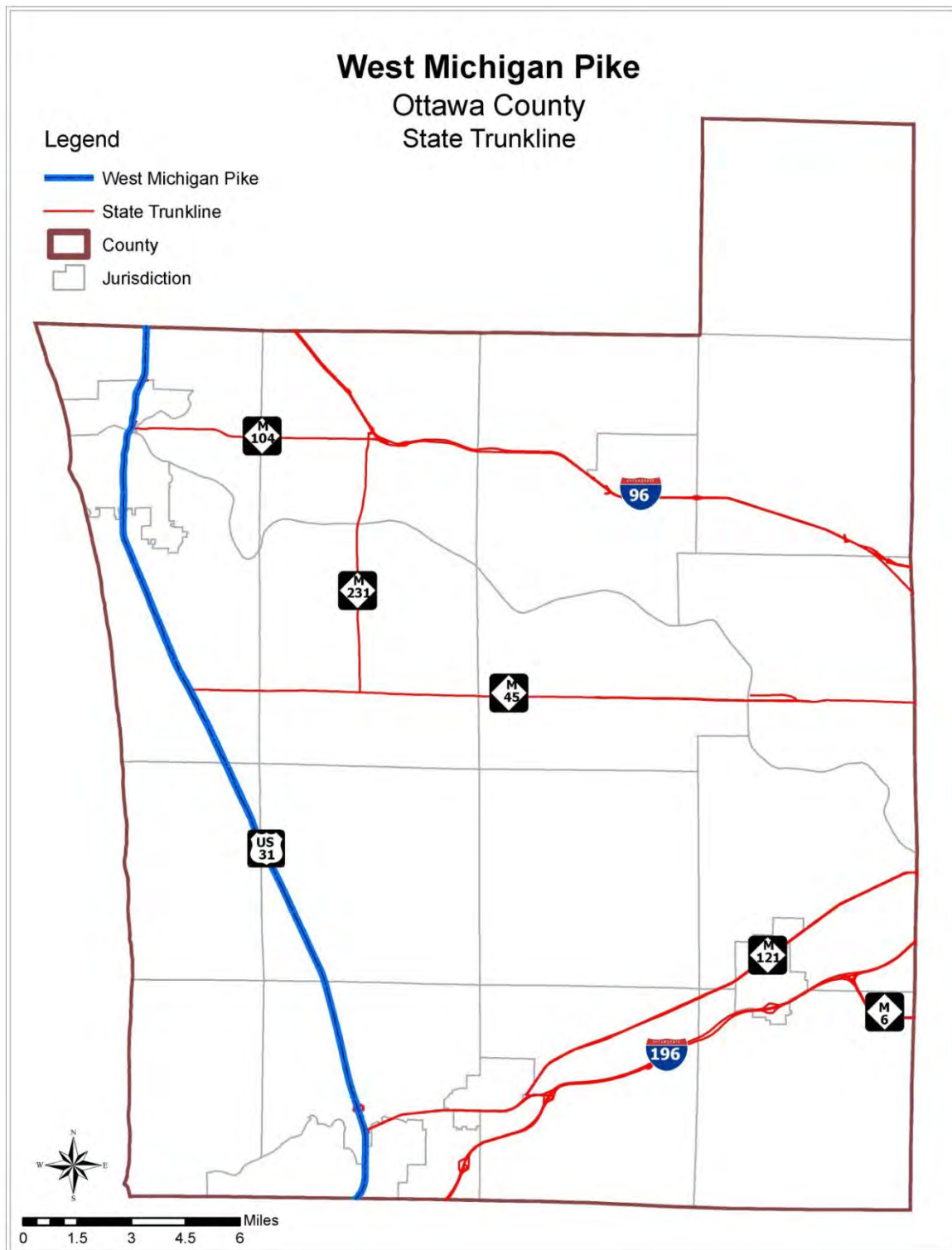


Figure 9

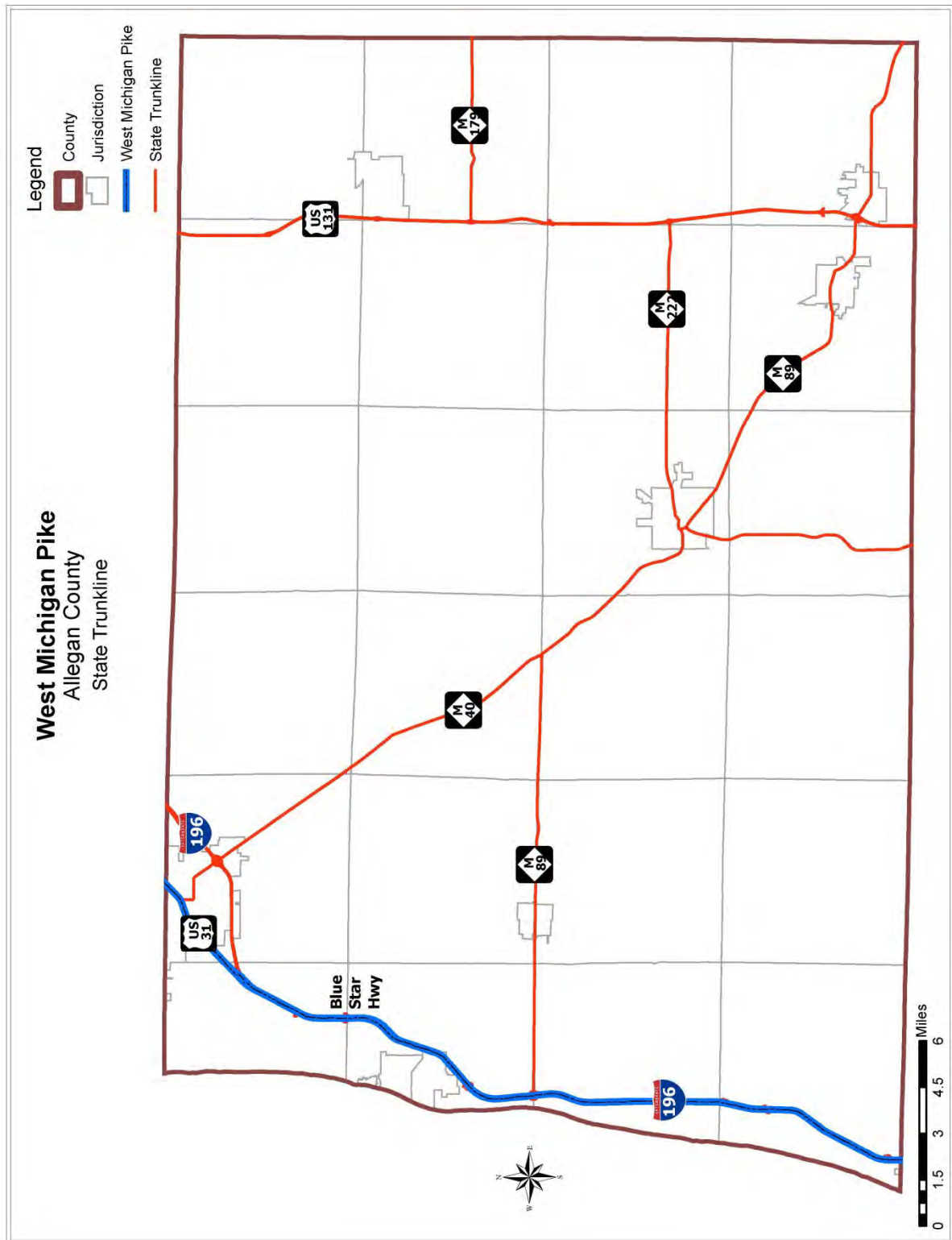


Figure 10

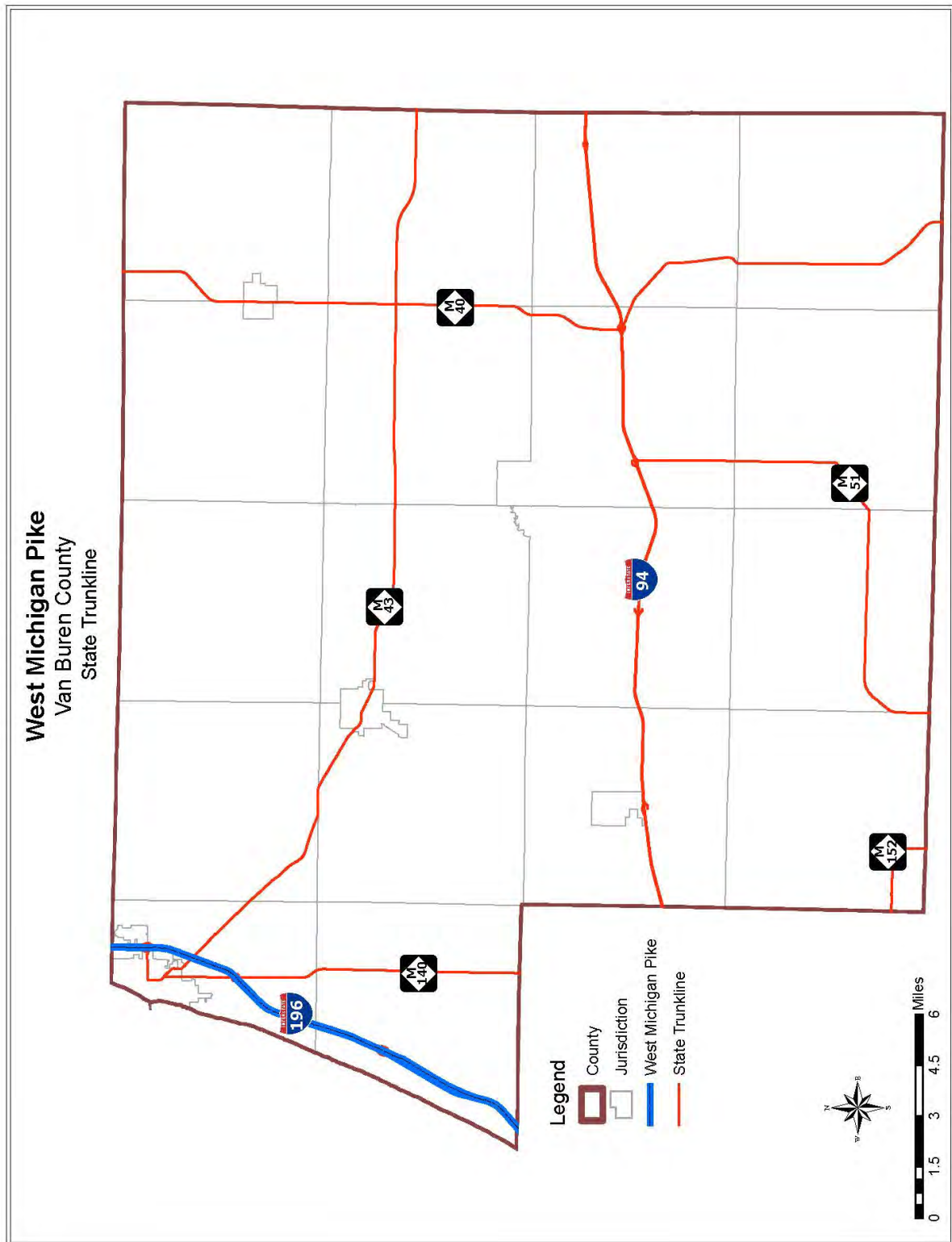
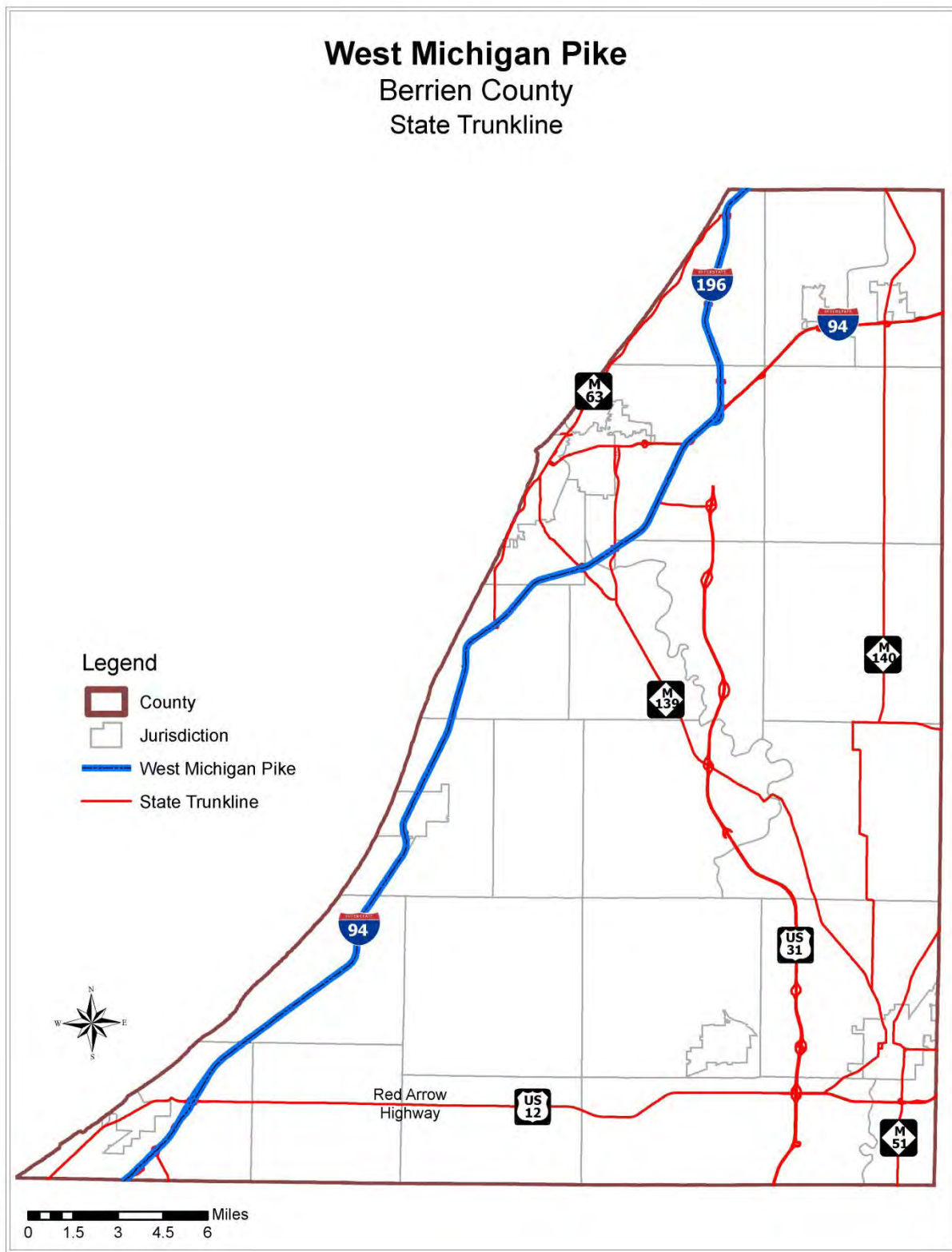


Figure 11



Chapter 2: Byway Committee

Byway Sponsor

The Michigan Beachtowns Association serves as the byway sponsor and establishes the general direction and priorities for the West Michigan Pike. These include working with other organizations to promote travel and tourism, marketing, and other promotional efforts throughout the area. The Beachtowns Association partnered with the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission to assist with the writing of this plan, and to provide assistance with other components of Corridor Management such as GIS mapping and safety analysis.

Byway Committee

The committee consists of the following representatives of the Michigan Beachtowns Association (as of 2017):

Scott Beal
Silver Lake Sand Dunes - Hart Visitors Bureau
2388 North Comfort Drive
Hart, MI 49420
Phone: 231-873-3982
Email: Marketing@ThinkDunes.com

Marci Cisneros, Executive Director
Grand Haven Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
225 Franklin Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417
Phone: 616-842-4499
Email: mcisneros@visitgrandhaven.com

Ken Fischang, Executive Director
Saugatuck Convention and Visitors Bureau
PO Box 28
Saugatuck, MI 49453
Phone: 269-857-1701
Email: ken@saugatuck.com

Millicent Huminsky, President
Southwestern MI Tourist Council
2300 Pipestone Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
Email: mhuminsky@swmichigan.org

Sally Laukitis, Executive Director
Holland Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
78 E. 8th Street
Holland, MI 49423
Phone: 616-394-0000
Email: sally@holland.org

Bob Lukens, Executive Director
Muskegon County Convention and Visitors Bureau
610 W. Western Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49440
Phone: 231-724-3100
Email: lukenro@co.muskegon.mi.us

Scott Reinert, Executive Director
South Haven/Van Buren County Convention and Visitors Bureau
546 Phoenix St.
South Haven, MI 49090
Phone: 269-637-5252
Email: sreinert@southhaven.org

The Michigan Beachtowns Association meets monthly from September through May. The committee's work on the West Michigan Pike is facilitated and coordinated by the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC, 316 Morris Avenue, Suite 340, Muskegon, MI 49440).

Chapter 3: Corridor Analysis

During the process of compiling the Corridor Analysis section of the plan, WMSRDC staff met multiple times with Michigan Beachtowns Association members, gave them updates on the plan progress, and reviewed, analyzed, and compiled a great deal of information on various aspects of the route. This includes a listing of approved portions of the byway, a safety analyses, and ranking of tourist sites among other information which is presented in the following pages.

Approved Portions of the Byway

As previously stated, for the purpose of the Pure Michigan Scenic Byway - West Michigan Pike, the designated route follows the State Trunklines listed below:

- US-12 from the Indiana state line south of New Buffalo northerly through New Buffalo to I-94 at Exit 4.
- I-94 from Exit 4 near New Buffalo northerly to BL I-94/Red Arrow Hwy at Exit 23 north of Stevensville.
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- Through downtown South Haven via BL I-196 between I-196/US-31 Exits 18 and 20.
- I-196/US-31 from BL I-196 at Exit 20 northerly to the I-196 & US-31 split at Exit 44 south of Holland.
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- BUS US-31 through downtown Whitehall and Montague between US-31 Exits 128 and 131.
- US-31 from BUS US-31 northeast of Montague at Exit 131 northerly to BUS US-31 near Pentwater at Exit 154.
- BUS US-31 through Pentwater between US-31 Exits 154 and 158.
- US-31 from BUS US-31 north of Pentwater at Exit 158 to US-10 east of Ludington at Exit 170.

Water bodies, Settlements, and Terrain

Water Bodies along the West Michigan Pike

While there are a number of water bodies along the route of the Pike the one of primary importance is Lake Michigan. Lake Michigan connects the area to not only to other communities on Lake Michigan, but also to the world's oceans via the St. Lawrence Seaway.

The importance of Lake Michigan to West Michigan is difficult to overstate. Much of the tourism industry in West Michigan is tied to Lake Michigan and the West Michigan Pike was originally created as a way to increase tourism to the Lake Michigan waterfront towns.

Major water features in Berrien County, other than Lake Michigan, include the St. Joseph River which flows through the county until it reaches Lake Michigan in the City of St. Joseph. In the northern portion of Berrien County the Paw Paw River flows from Paw Paw Lake and ultimately joins the St. Joseph River prior to its entering Lake Michigan. (Figure 12)

In Van Buren County, (Figure 18) the two major rivers include the Paw Paw River which flows into Berrien County and the Black River which enters Lake Michigan at the City of South Haven. The primary river in Allegan County (Figure 17) is the Kalamazoo River which flows through the county with its mouth joining Lake Michigan at the City of Saugatuck.

The biggest river in Ottawa County (Figure 16) is the Grand River, which is the longest river in the State of Michigan. The Grand Rivers mouth is at Grand Haven where it meets Lake Michigan. Other important rivers in Ottawa County include the Macatawa River, the Bass River, and the Pigeon River. The Macatawa River flows into Lake Macatawa in Holland before continuing on until it reaches Lake Michigan.

In Muskegon County (Figure 15) some of the major bodies of water near the route of the Pike include the Muskegon River, the White River, Muskegon Lake, Bear Lake, White Lake, Duck Lake, and Mona Lake. The Muskegon River is the second longest river in the state of Michigan and flows into Muskegon Lake which empties into Lake Michigan via a mile long channel.

The most significant water bodies in Oceana County include Stony Lake, Silver Lake, Pentwater Lake, and the Pentwater River. (Figure 14)

Figure 122



Figure 133



Figure 144



Figure 155

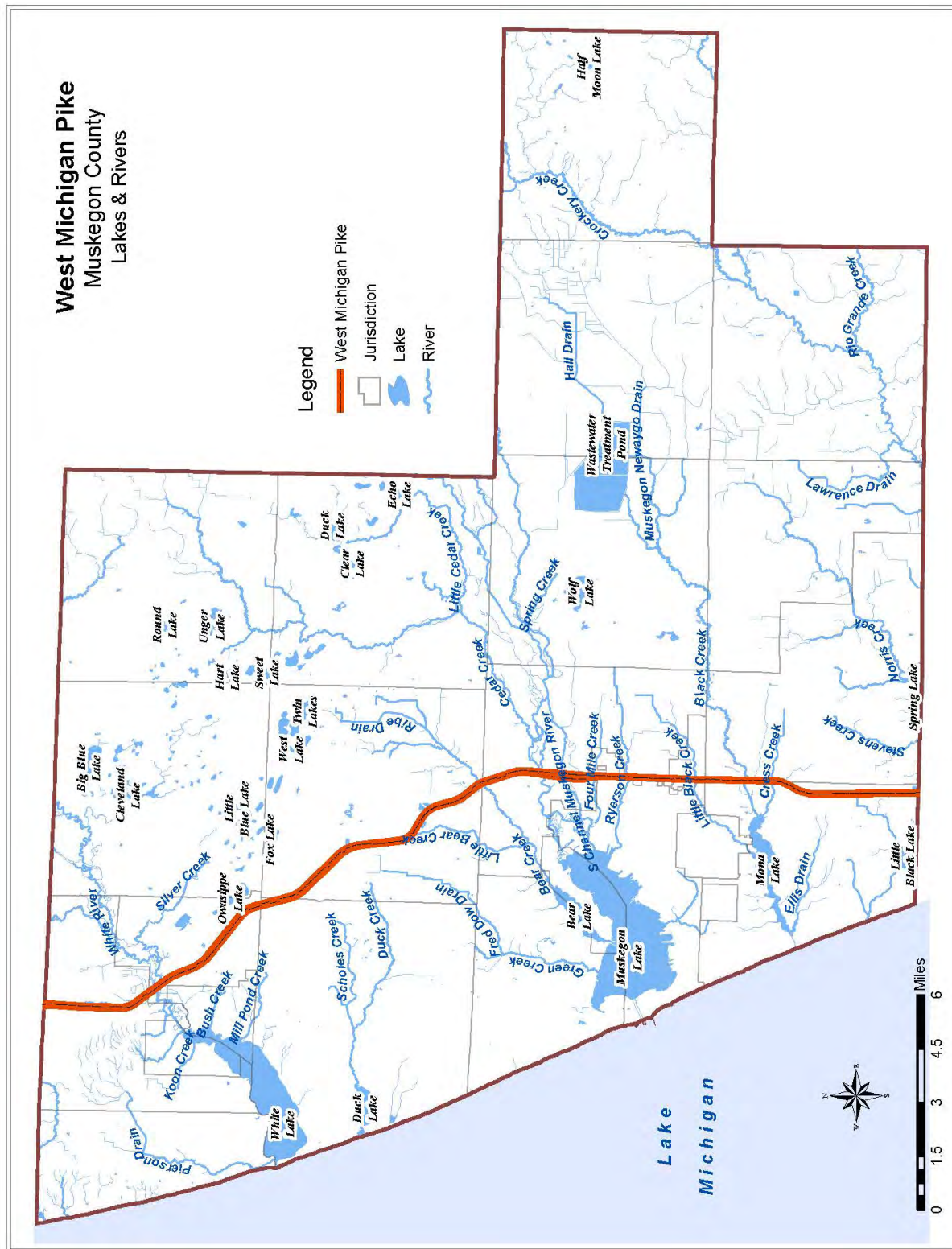


Figure 166



Figure 177

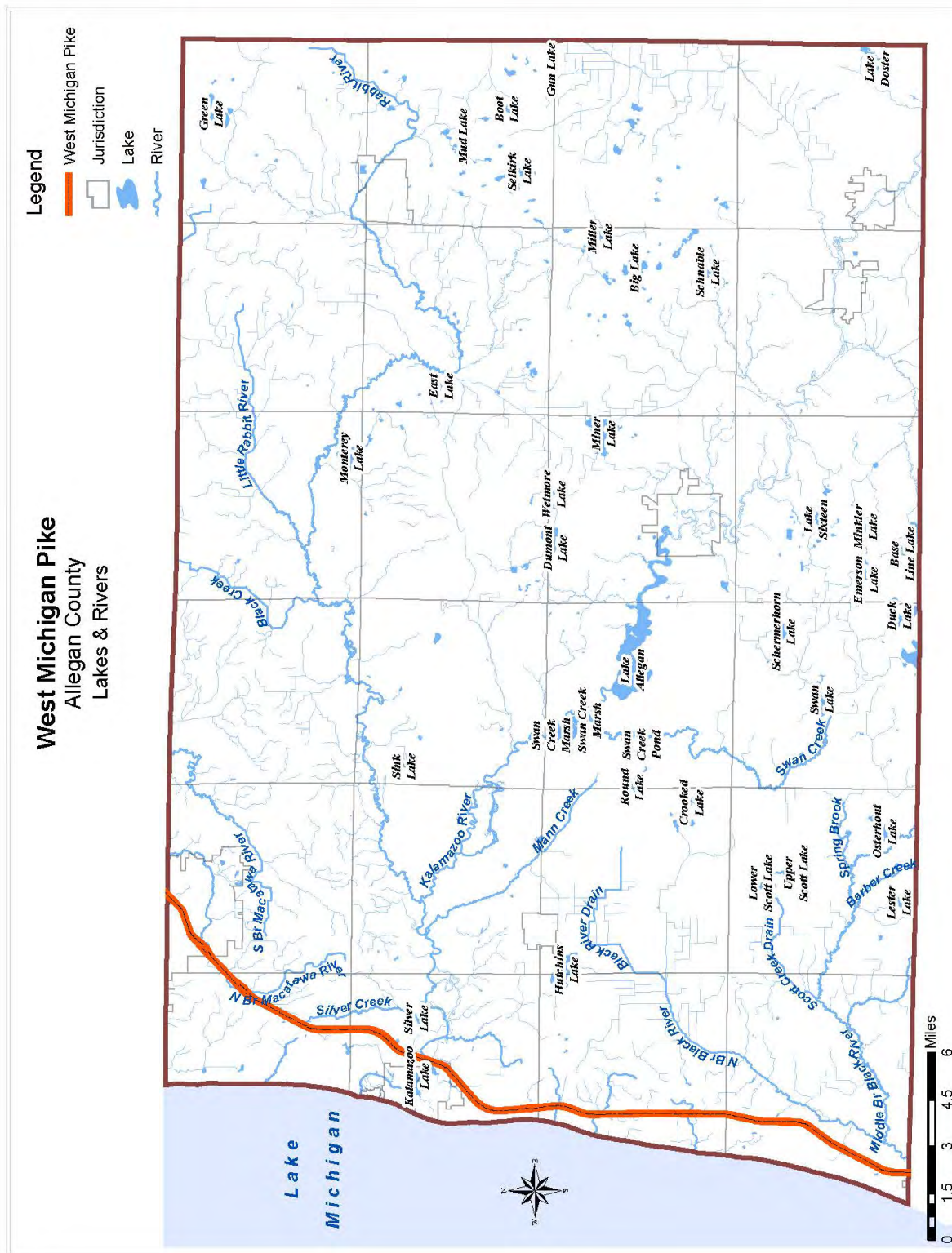
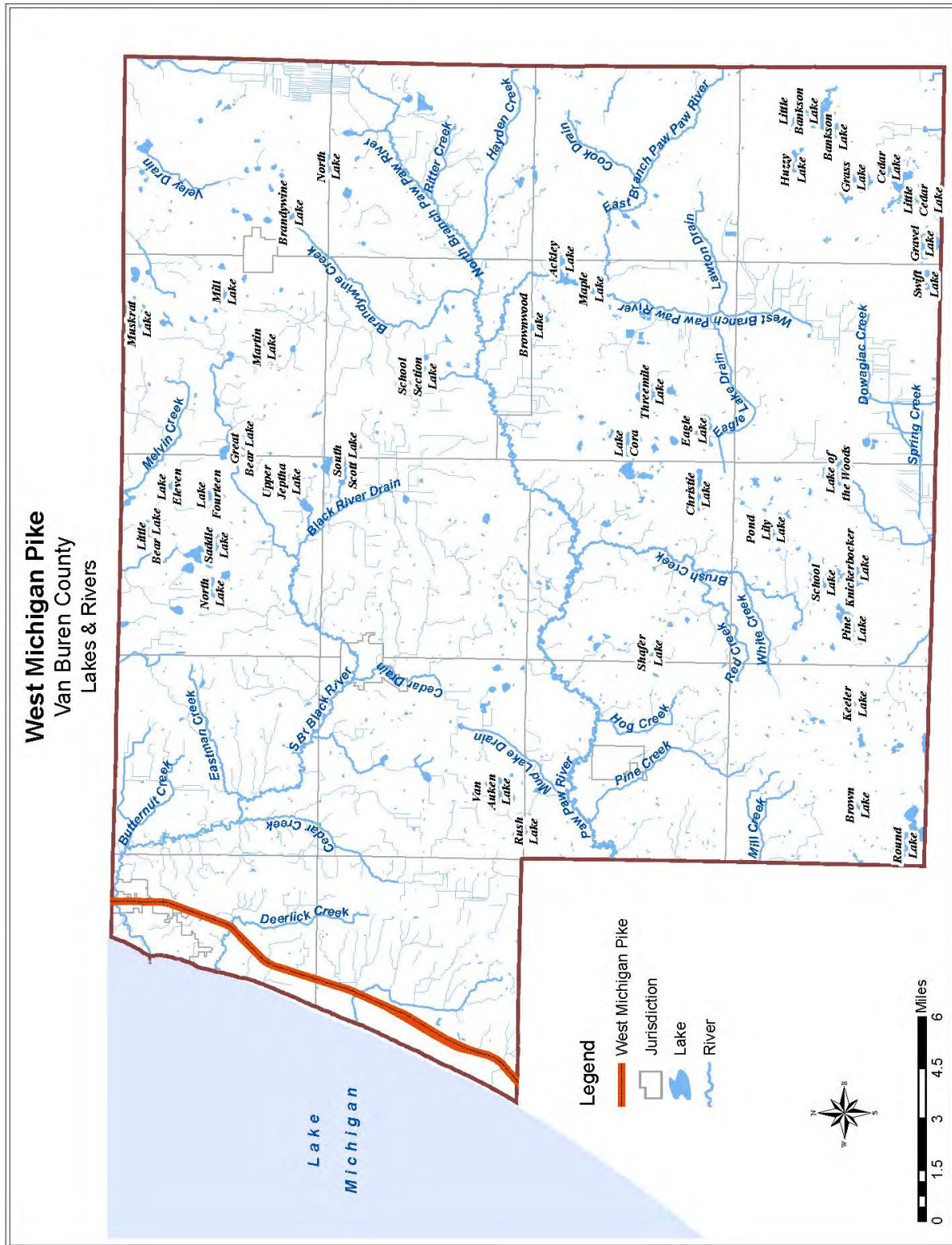


Figure 188



Settlements along the West Michigan Pike

As previously stated in the introductory chapter, the Designated Byway travels through seven counties, eleven cities, five villages and twenty-eight townships. Traveling from the southern Michigan border to Ludington, the Pike goes through the following jurisdictions.

Berrien County	Villages	1. Lakewood Club
Cities	1. Douglas	Townships
1. New Buffalo	Townships	1. Muskegon
2. St. Joseph	1. Ganges Township	Township
3. Benton Harbor	2. Saugatuck	2. Dalton Township
Townships	Township	3. Whitehall
1. New Buffalo	3. Laketown township	Township
Township	4. Fillmore Township	3. Montague
2. Chikaming		Township
Township	Ottawa County	
3. Lake Township	Cities	Oceana County
4. Lincoln Township	1. Holland	Villages
5. St. Joseph	2. Grand Haven	1. Rothbury
Township	3. Ferrysburg	2. Hart
6. Sodus Township	Townships	3. Pentwater
7. Benton Township	1. Park Township	Townships
8. Hagar Township	2. Port Sheldon	1. Grant Township
	Township	2. Shelby Township
Van Buren County	3. Grand Haven	3. Hart Township
Cities	Township	4. Pentwater
1. South Haven	4. Spring Lake	Township
Townships	Township	
1. Covert Township		Mason County
2. South Haven	Muskegon County	Townships
Township	Cities	1. Summit Township
	1. Norton Shores	2. Pere Marquette
Allegan County	2. Muskegon Heights	Township
Cities	3. Muskegon	
1. Saugatuck	Villages	

Maps of all the counties showing the Cities, Villages, and Townships can be seen on the following pages.

Figure 19

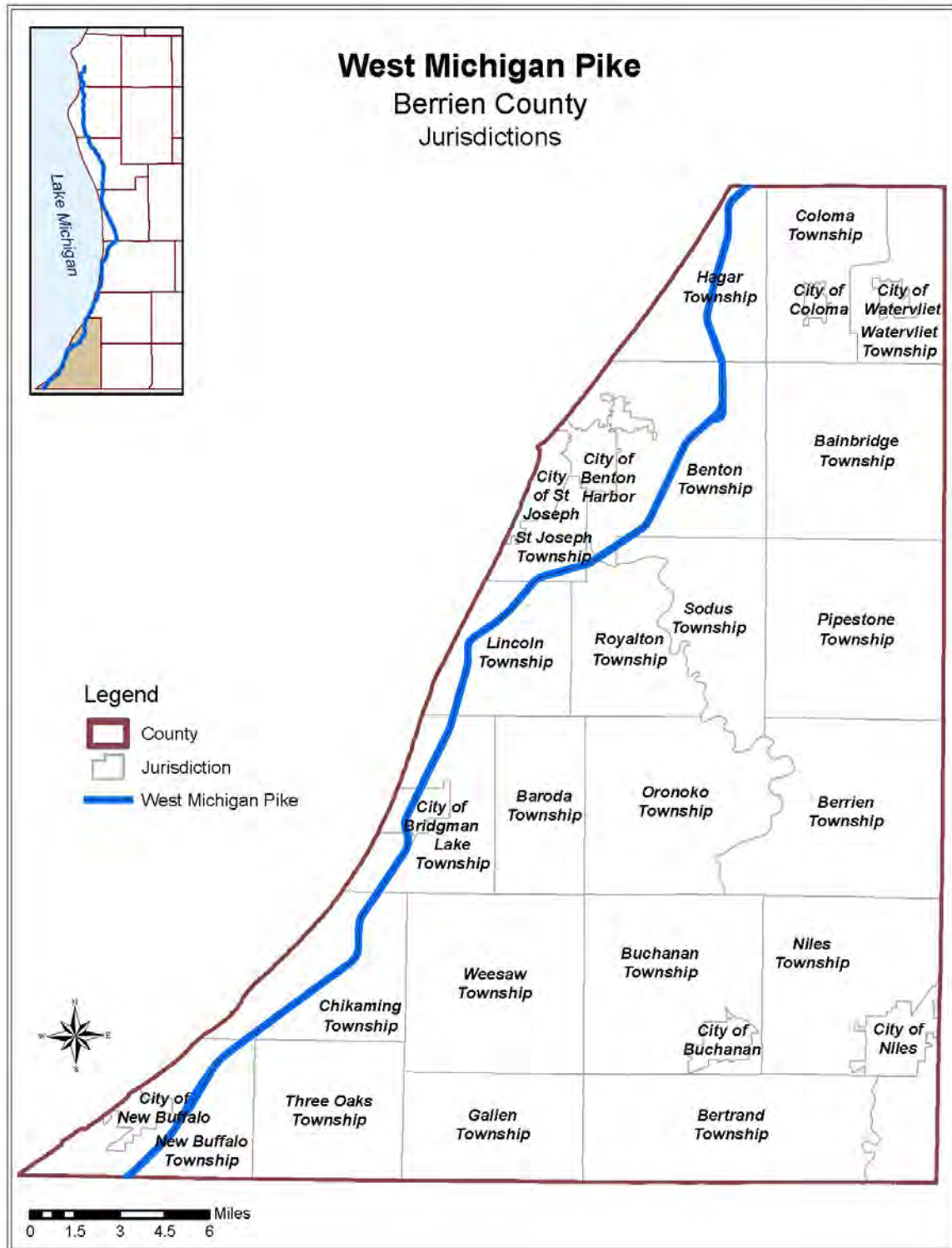


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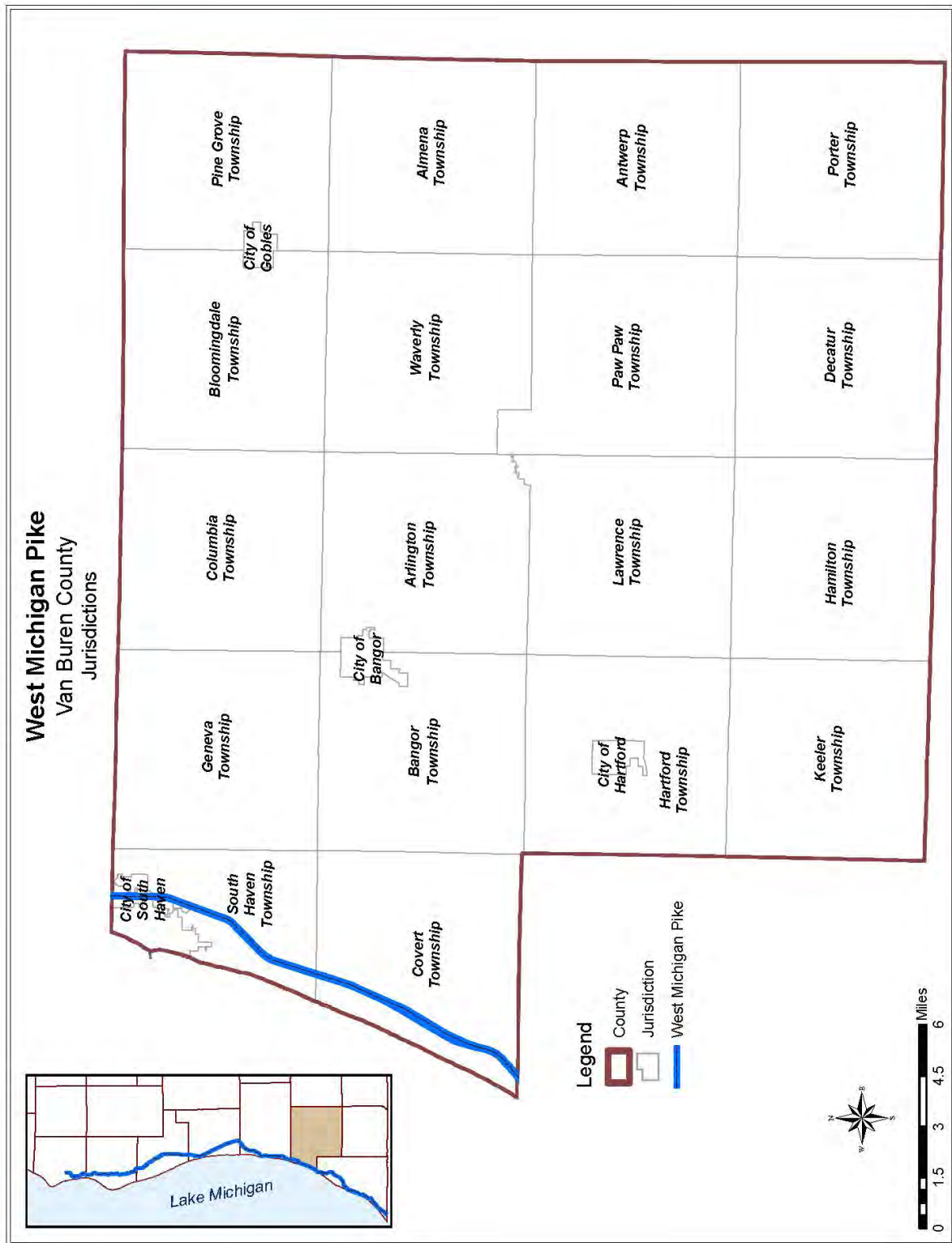


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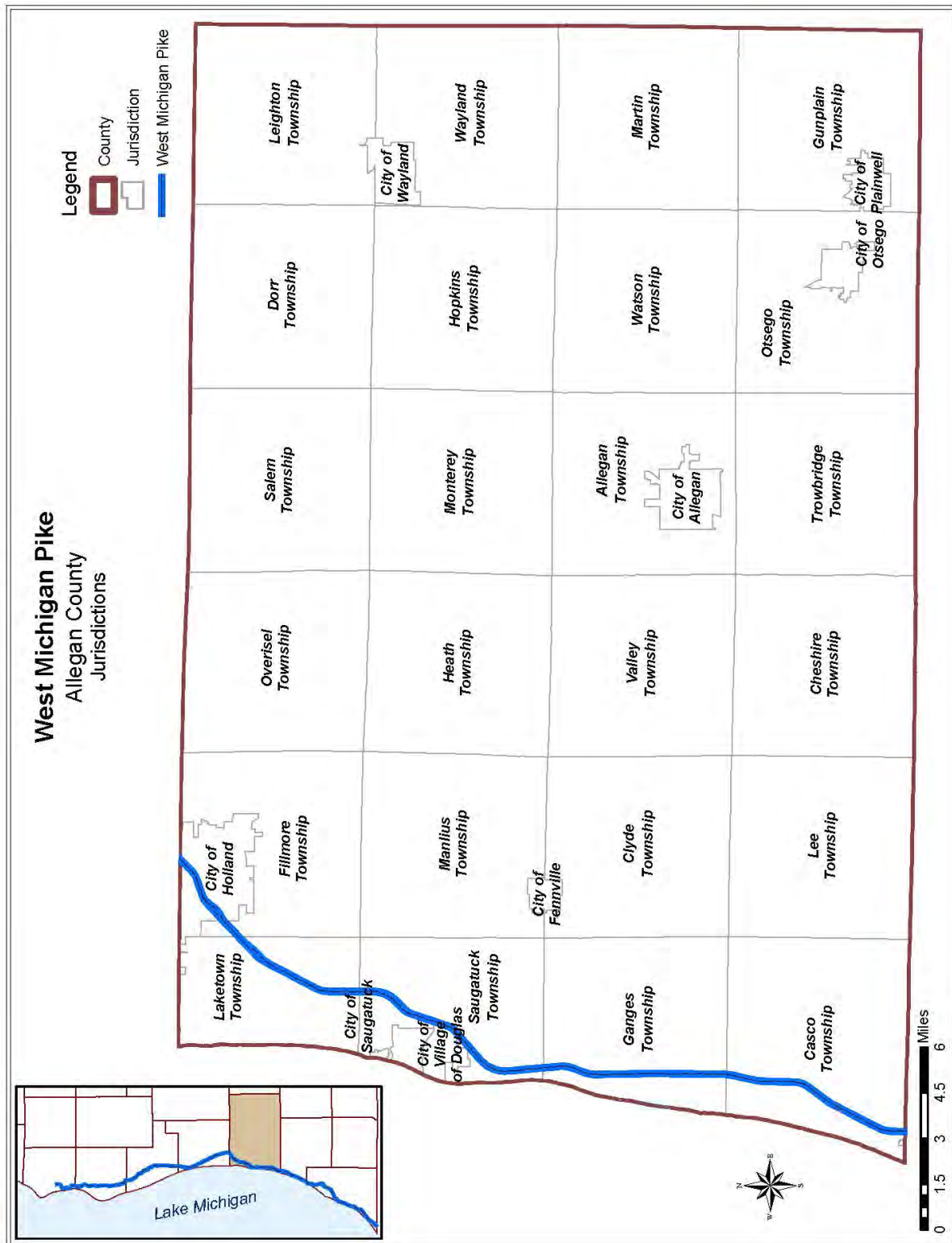


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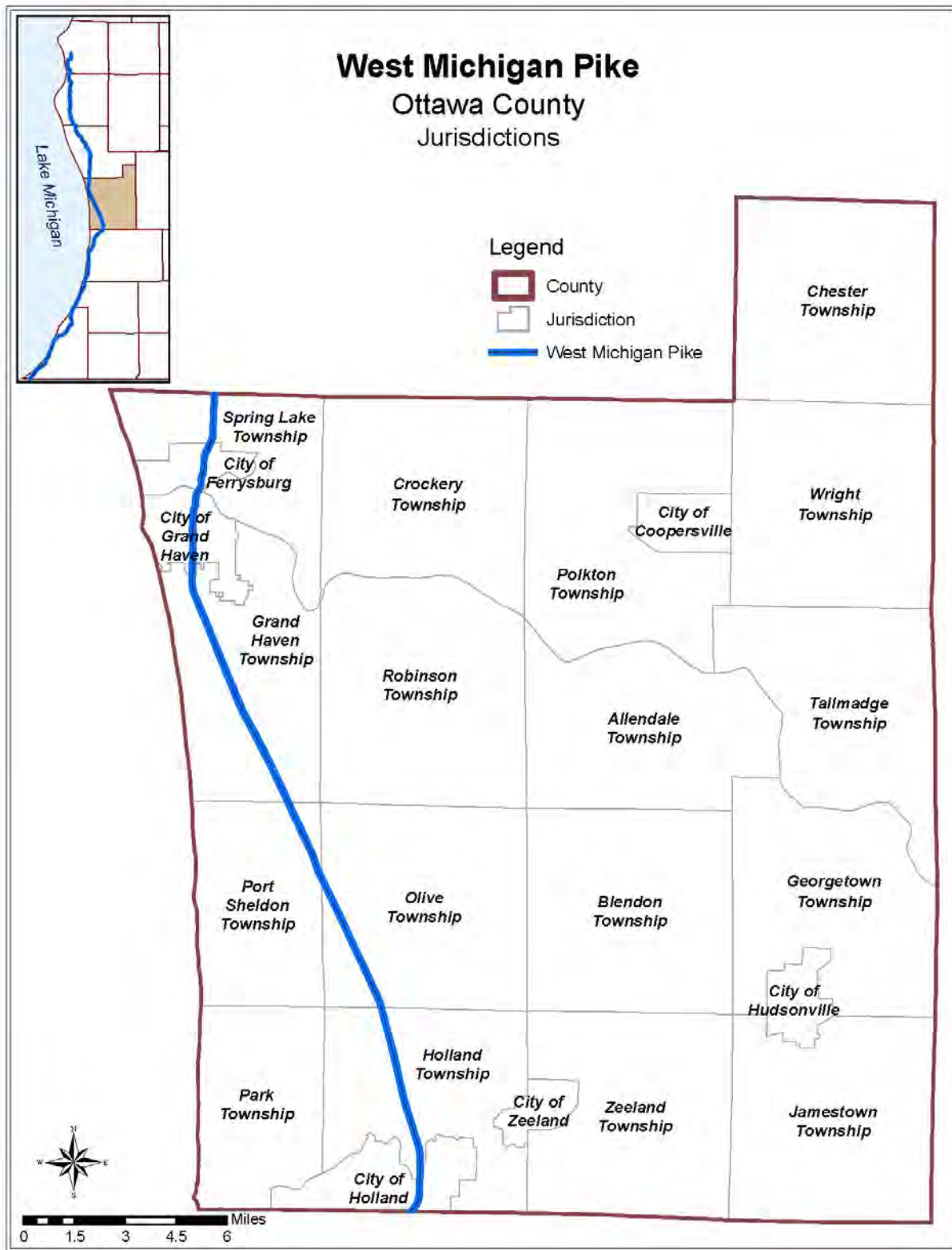


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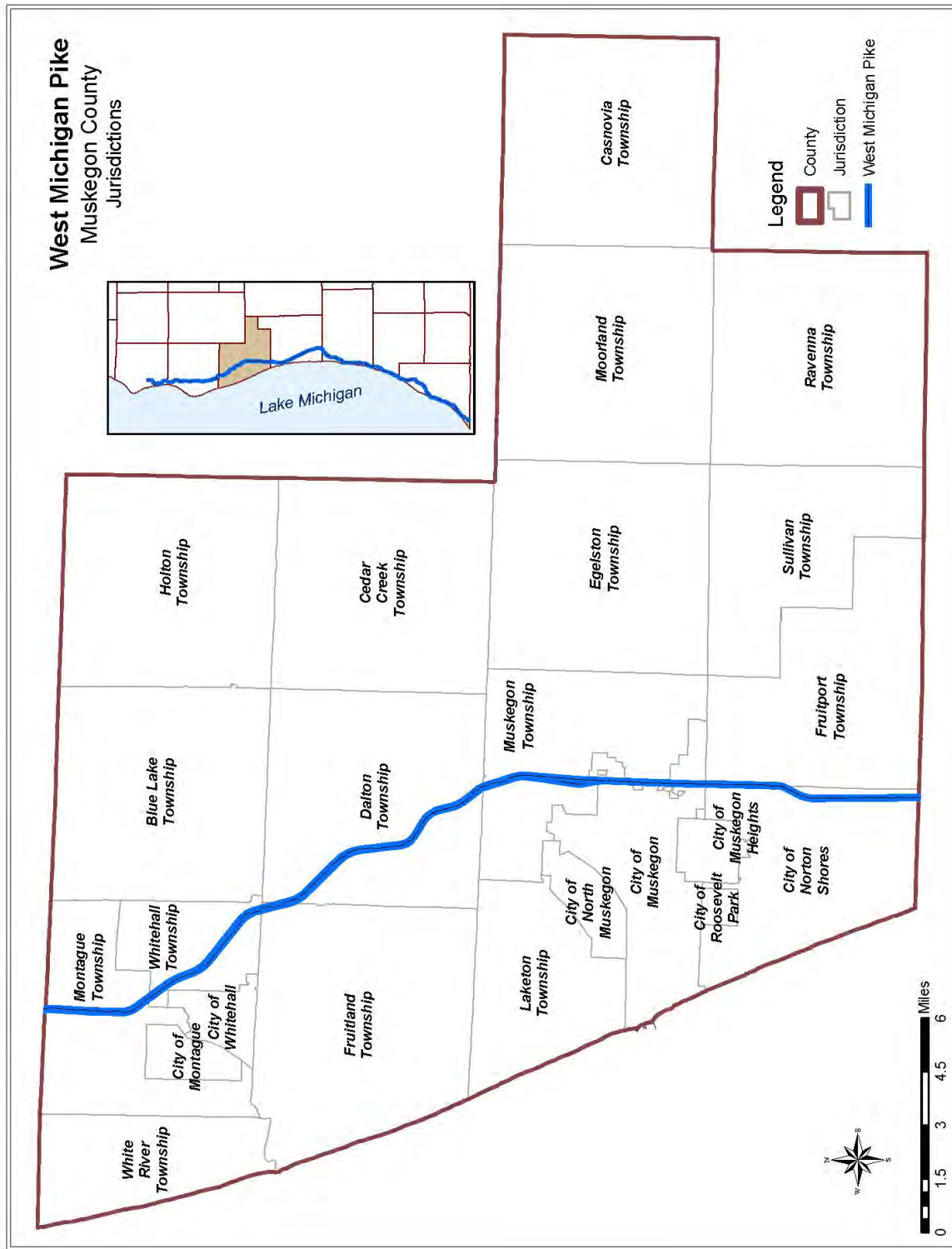


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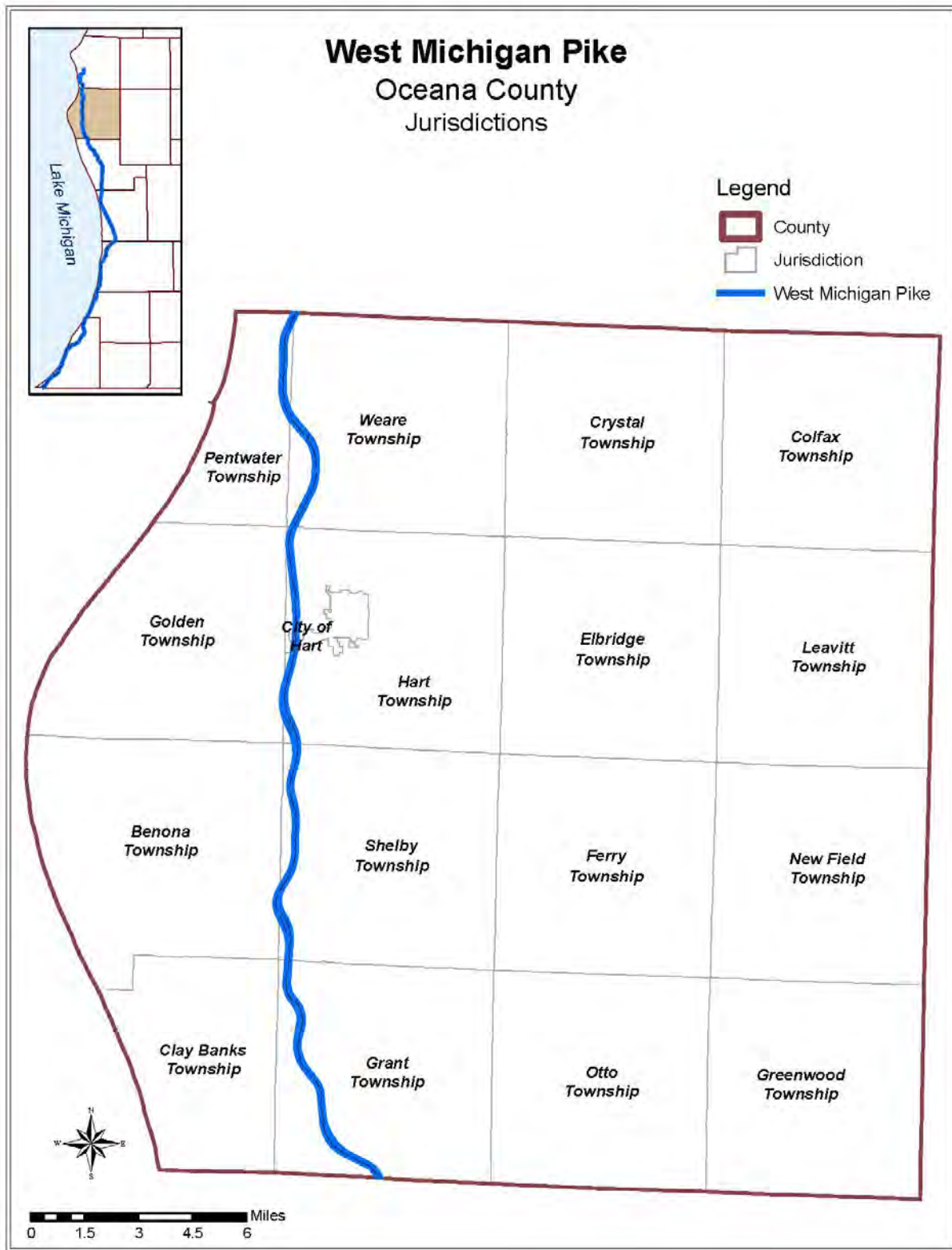
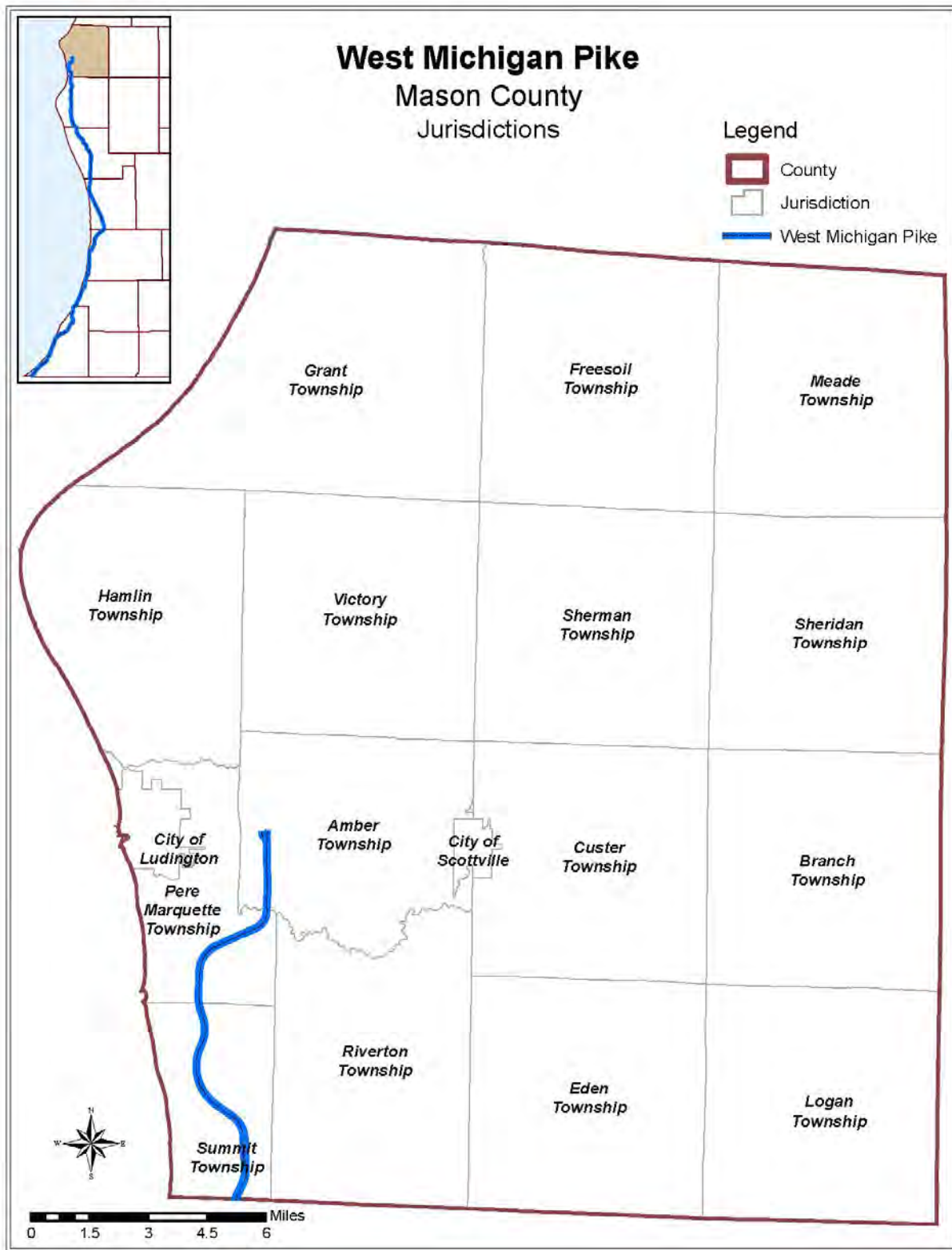


Figure 25



Terrain and General Land Uses

The West Michigan Pike runs along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan and is characterized by coastal plains and immense lakeshore sand dunes, inland rolling hills, and high ridges. The region is well known for its productive fruit orchards and agriculture in general. Some of the most pristine and flourishing rivers in the Midwest exist in this region. Many fishermen make these rivers their destination, especially for salmon, steelhead, and trout.

Most rural zoning is designed to promote agricultural, low-density residential or recreational land uses, whereas the cities and villages employ more diversified zoning classifications. Most urban areas have set aside land for industrial, commercial, recreational, and varying densities of residential development. Much of the remaining area is rural residential and sparsely populated or classified as national or state forests, state game areas, state or county parks, natural dunes, or other preserved and protected land.

Agricultural and food processing activities are an important component of the area's economy. Fruit growing has always been a prosperous activity. The most notable crops harvested are blueberries, apples, cherries, and strawberries. Although fruit growing is boasted as the most productive agricultural activity in the region, many farmers grow more traditional crops such as corn, alfalfa, asparagus, and potatoes. Also, many rural communities are heavily influenced by the prosperity of the surrounding agricultural endeavors.

The region, heavily dependent upon tourism revenues, is home to several popular state and county parks and other tourist activities. Eleven state parks are located along or near the Pike, with many on the Lake Michigan shoreline from Warren Woods State Park and Warren Dunes State Park in Berrien County to Silver Lake State Park in Oceana County.

Figure 26 - Berrien County Terrain

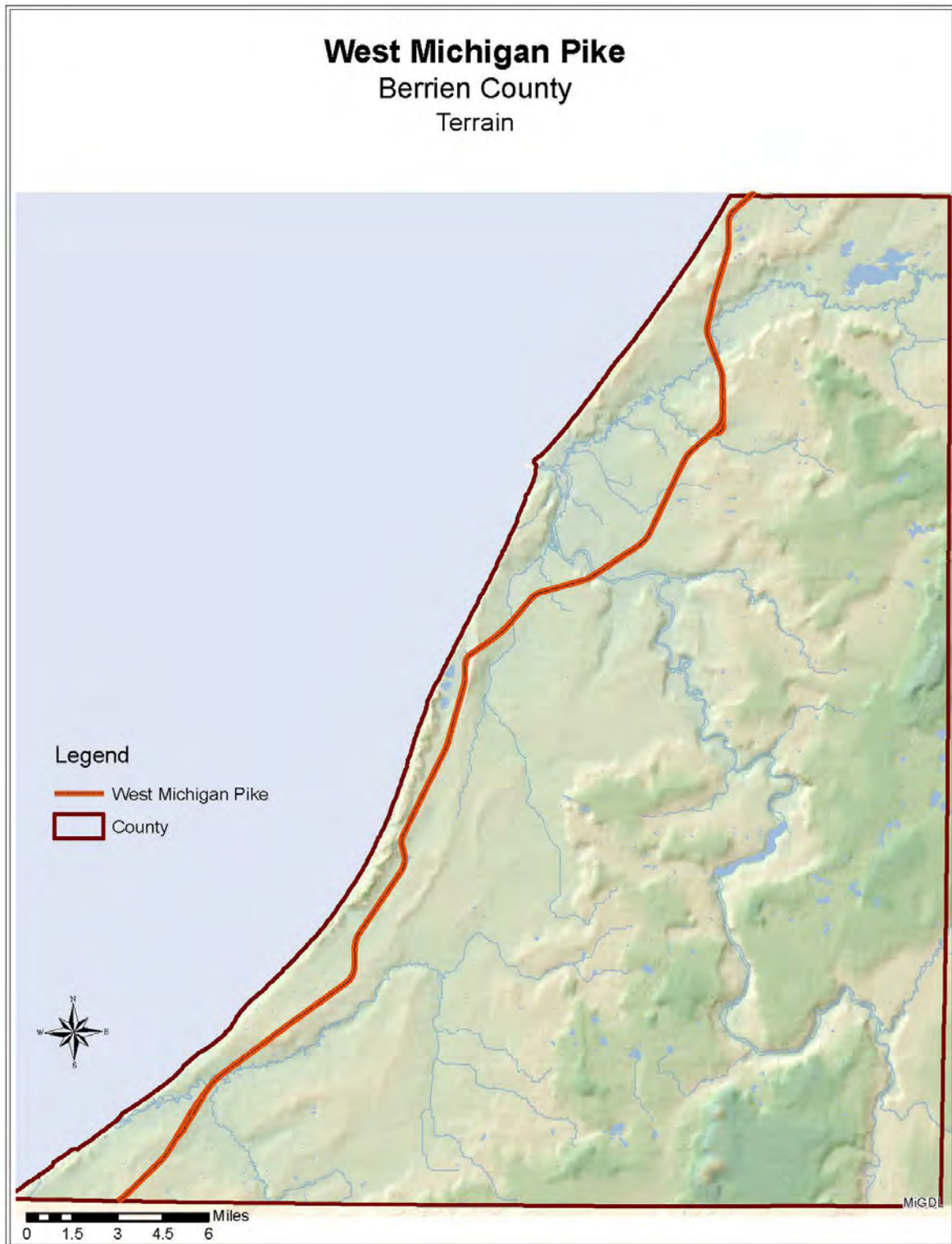


Figure 27 - Van Buren County Terrain

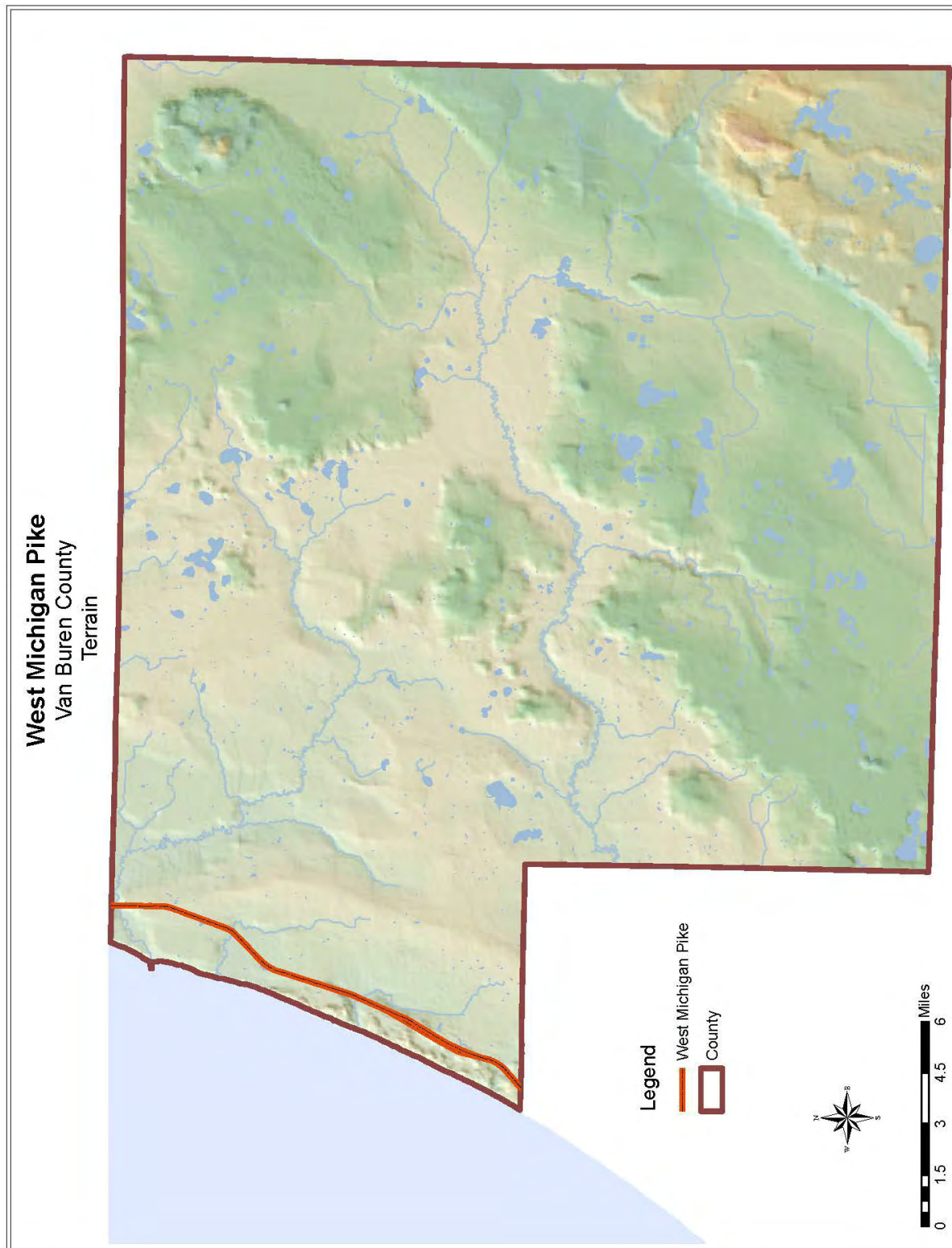


Figure 198 - Allegan County Terrain

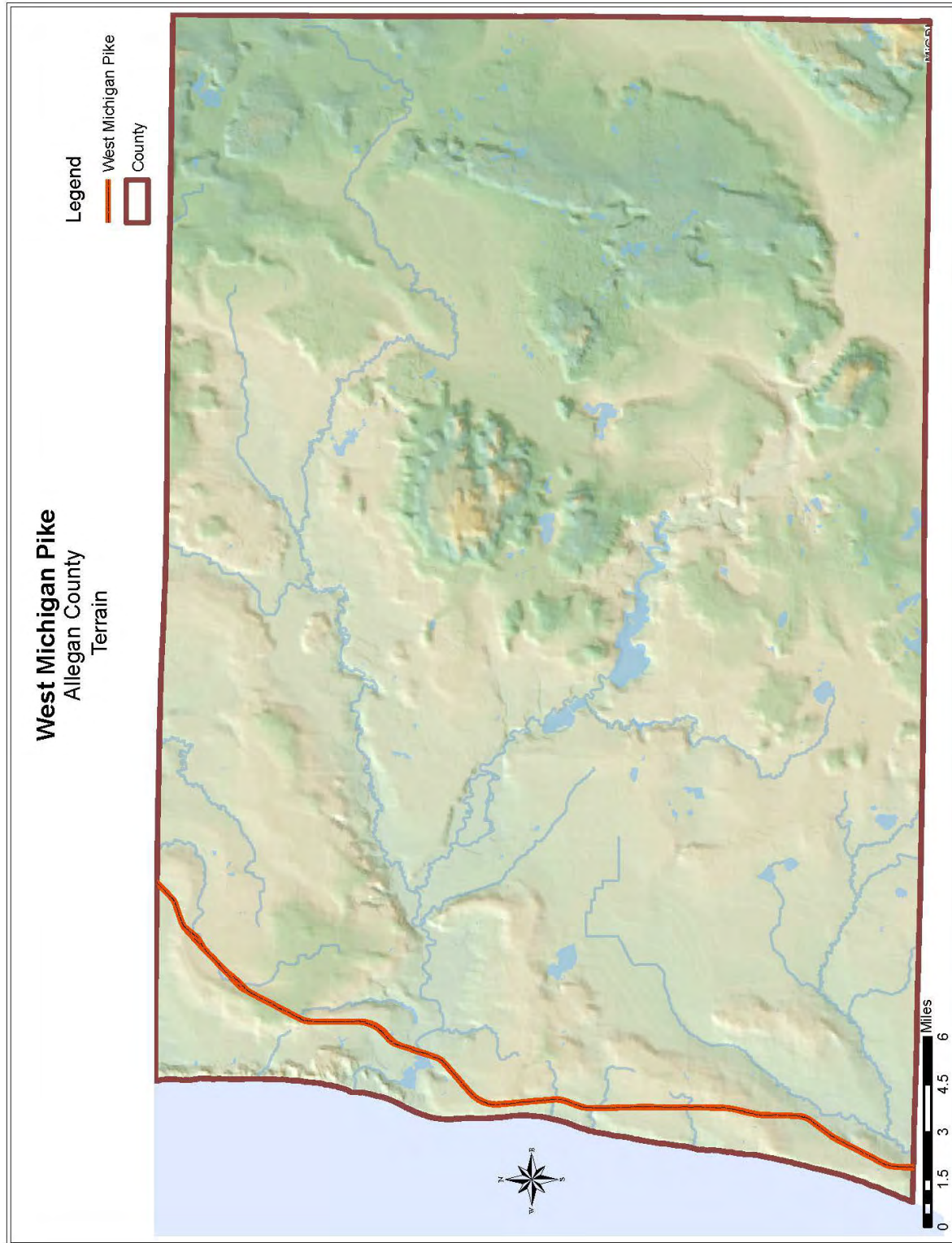


Figure 209 - Ottawa County Terrain



Figure 30 - Muskegon County Terrain



Figure 31 - Oceana County Terrain



Figure 32 - Mason County Terrain



Chapter 4: Traffic and Safety Analysis

The portion of the West Michigan Pike which has been designated as a Pure Michigan Byway passes through three planning regions; the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC), the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission (WMRPC), and the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC).

In 2015 through 2017 MDOT, along with consultants OPUS and Atkins, undertook Regional Safety plans for of these regions, covering all of the counties which are part of the West Michigan Pike –Scenic Byway. OPUS has completed the plans for SWMPC and WMSRDC. Atkins has not yet completed the plan for WMRPC. The safety analysis in this document is primarily based on the completed safety plans.

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC)

Berrien and Van Buren Counties are part of the Southwest Regional Commission (SWMPC) whose Regional Safety Plan was completed in 2016. Committee members reviewed crash data and identified emphasis areas where action could be taken to reduce crashes. The following Table is taken from this publication showing the emphasis areas.

Emphasis Area	Location	Fatal & Severe Injury Crashes	% of Total Fatal & Severe Injury Fatal Crashes
Roadway Departure	Rural	249	41.1%
	Urban	109	32.0%
	All	358	37.8%
Aggressive Driving	Rural	349	57.6%
	Urban	207	60.7%
	All	556	58.7%
Intersection Related	Rural	121	21.6%
	Urban	113	33.1.0%
	All	244	25.8%
Non-Motorized Crashes	Rural	28	4.6%
	Urban	50	14.7%
	All	78	8.2%
High Risk Locations	N/A		

The top emphasis areas for the counties in the SWMPC were identified as roadway departure crashes, aggressive driving, intersection related crashes, and non-motorized crashes.

Roadway Departures

According to the study, roadway departure crashes made up more than third of the crashes in the Southwest Michigan Region. There may be a number of factors that contribute to this type of crash including, roads without shoulders, sharp curves etc. Identified countermeasures included advanced curve warnings signs or chevrons, installing shoulders where none exist or expand narrow shoulders, installing edgeline and centerline rumble strips, installing safety edge pavement treatments, and improving nighttime delineation.

Aggressive Driving

Aggressive driving contributed to 64 percent of crashes in the area between 2010 and 2014 and close to 59% of all fatal and serious injuries. Possible countermeasures which were identified in the study included mobile speed trailers, traffic calming projects, and randomized enforcement locations.

Intersection Related Crashes

The next emphasis area which was identified was intersection related crashes. These made up just over a quarter of all crashes. Intersection concerns which contribute to crashes could include a number of potential issues. These include such things as poor lane use markings, line of sight issues, drowsy or impaired drivers, and failure to yield. According to the study, intersection issues contributed to over 25% of crashes in the Region.

Potential countermeasures identified included: review of intersection traffic control, emergency vehicle signal preemption, advanced intersection signage, and installation of transverse rumble strips.

Non-Motorized Crashes

Although Non-motorized crashes were a small percent of all crashes overall, the probability of such a crash being serious or fatal is disproportionately high. Potential countermeasures identified included: crosswalk improvements, improve connectivity, installation and maintenance of bike lanes, and pedestrian and bicycle education programs.

West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC)

OPUS International also completed a safety plan for the five counties within the WMSRDC boundaries. The Pike passes through three of these counties: Muskegon, Oceana, and Mason.

There were a number of conclusions drawn in the safety plan completed in 2017 for WMSRDC. Safety Plan Committee members reviewed crash data and identified emphasis areas where action could be taken to reduce crashes. The following Table is taken from this publication showing the emphasis areas.

Emphasis Area	Portion of 29,636 Total Crashes	Portion of 985 Fatal & Incapacitating Injury Crashes	Portion of 143 Fatal Crashes
Driver Age Related Concerns	55.1%	52.0%	52.4%
Driver Behavior Related	67.7%	65.4%	55.9%
Impaired Driver Involved	5.5%	21.5%	36.4%
Intersection Related	33.7%	29.7%	21.7%
Motorcycle Involved	2.2%	14.0%	19.6%
Roadside Related	29.2%	39.0%	38.5%
Sign & Delineation Related	<i>Unavailable</i>		
Vulnerable Road User Involved	1.7%	9.6%	14.0%
All Emphasis Area Related Crashes	93.6%	97.9%	98.6%

The top emphasis areas were identified as driver age related concerns, driver behavior related, impaired drivers, intersection related concerns, motorcycle related, roadside related, sign and delineation related, and vulnerable road user issues.

Driver Age Related Concerns

According to the study, age related concerns contributed to 55.1% of all crashes in the region. These include younger drivers under the age of 25 and elderly drivers over than age of 65. Potential countermeasures identified for younger drivers were education and enforcement. Countermeasures for elderly drivers include improvements to signage and traffic control as well as improvements to transit availability.

Driver Behavior Related Concerns

According to the previous chart, driver behavior related concerns were the greatest contributor to crashes in the Region at nearly 68 %. These include a number of possible behaviors including using a cell phone, speeding, disobeying traffic control, failure to stop as well as a number of other behaviors.

Potential countermeasures identified were education, enforcement, feedback signs, and traffic calming projects.

Impaired Driver Concerns

While impaired driver crashes have continued to decline in the region, it is still at a higher rate than the rest of the state of Michigan. Potential countermeasures identified were education and enforcement.

Intersection Related Concerns

Intersection concerns include a number of potential issues. These include such things as line of sight and failure to yield. According to the study, intersection issues contributed to nearly 34% of crashes in the region. Potential countermeasures which were identified included a variety of improvements to traffic control and signage as well as maintaining clear sight distance.

Motorcycle Related Concerns

Ever since the mandatory helmet law was repealed in Michigan in 2012 there has been an increase in the number of fatal and incapacitating injuries. While motorcycle related crashes only made up 2.2% of crashes, the portion of fatal and incapacitating injuries was 14%.

The Safety Plan outlined a number of potential countermeasures. These included education campaigns, enforcement, and promoting high visibility apparel.

Roadside Related Concerns

Roadside related concerns mean single vehicle lane departure crashes. This issue accounts for 40% of all crashes in the region. Contributing factors may include items such as poor roadside delineation, inclement weather, and impaired or drowsy driving. Potential countermeasures which were identified included a variety of improvements to the roadway. These include adding advanced curve warnings, installing rumble strips, expanding paved shoulders, and improving nighttime delineation.

Sign and Delineation Related

While the issue of poor sign and delineation concerns was cited by participants in the steering committee for the Safety study, there is not much data available for how big a problem this is. Nevertheless, potential countermeasures include replacing signs that currently have low reflectivity and updating pavement markings.

Vulnerable Road User Involved

The number of pedestrian and bicycle involved crashes were small, at 1.7% of crashes in the region. However the percentage of fatal and incapacity injury severity was almost 10%. Countermeasures which were identified included the addition of bike lanes, crosswalk improvements, improvements to sidewalk and trail connectivity, education and awareness campaigns.

Other counties

Safety plans for other counties which the Pike traverses have not yet been completed. These include Allegan and Ottawa Counties. Once a safety plan is completed for these counties any changes will be updated to this document.

Safety Conclusions and Recommendations

While it appears that safety is not a huge issue along the Designated Byway, one of the primary goals will be to get travelers off the designated route and onto local roads. For this reason, this Safety section focusses on more than just the Byway itself. The Byway Committees in each county should continue to review crash data going forward and work with appropriate road agencies such as road commission and City and Village DPW on safety fixes.

For a more in depth look at traffic safety issues in the areas surrounding the Byway, please refer to the reports “Moving Toward Zero Deaths on Southwest Michigan Roads” and “Moving Toward Zero Deaths on WMSRDC Region Roads.”

Chapter 5: Intrinsic Qualities

The corridor management plan includes an inventory and analysis of the intrinsic qualities of the corridor. Intrinsic qualities relate to six types of resources: archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic. The major tourism sites along the Pike have been evaluated and categorized using these Intrinsic Qualities and can be seen on the following pages. A more extensive analysis was conducted by staff from the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office and can be accessed via the following links:

Southwest Michigan RoadMap: The West Michigan Pike

Volume I: Historic Context Narrative (Part I)

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/mshda_shpo_West_Michigan_Pike_vol1_Part1_346606_7.pdf

Southwest Michigan RoadMap: The West Michigan Pike

Volume I: Historic Context Narrative (Part II)

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/mshda_shpo_West_Michigan_Pike_vol1_Part2_346609_7.pdf

Southwest Michigan RoadMap: The West Michigan Pike

Volume II: Historic Resource Survey (Part I)

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/mshda_shpo_West_Michigan_Pike_vol2_Part1_346611_7.pdf

Southwest Michigan RoadMap: The West Michigan Pike

Volume II: Historic Resource Survey (Part II)

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/mshda_shpo_West_Michigan_Pike_vol2_Part2_346612_7.pdf

Southwest Michigan RoadMap: The West Michigan Pike

Volume II: Historic Resource Survey (Part III)

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/mshda_shpo_West_Michigan_Pike_vol2_Part3_346613_7.pdf

Recreational and Natural

Nature/Scenic: The most dramatic natural areas along the Pike are undoubtedly related to Lake Michigan and the dunes along the lake. Several state parks are located in the counties of the Pike, mostly on Lake Michigan, including Silver Lake State Park, Muskegon State Park, Hoffmaster State Park, Holland State Park, and Grand Haven State Park. In addition many local parks, beaches and nature preserves located along Lake Michigan near the Pike provide for opportunities to interact with nature.

Outdoor Recreation: There is a large amount of overlap between the Nature/Scenic intrinsic quality and the outdoor recreation elements along the Pike. This is due to the preeminent role that Lake Michigan, its beaches, and adjacent dunes play in the tourism of West Michigan. One fairly unique activity that takes place in two locations along the route of the Pike are dune rides. In Allegan County, Saugatuck Dune Rides takes riders on a 40 minute trip through the dunes, while Mac Woods Dune Rides is available in Oceana County.

In addition to the many Lake Michigan beaches such as Silver Beach in St. Joseph, numerous lakes, rivers, and streams also provide a multitude of recreational opportunities. Michigan's largest amusement park, Michigan's Adventure, is just a few minutes from the Pike in Muskegon County.

Multiple bicycling/pedestrian trails throughout the area provide opportunities for outdoor recreation as well. In addition, other recreational options include camping, golfing, charter fishing, or even sailing on a tall ship.

Historic

Maritime History:

Lighthouses: Lighthouses are an important part of West Michigan's tourism and maritime history. Important lighthouses along the route of the Pike include the Sable Point Lighthouse in Oceana County, the White River Light Station and the lighthouse at Pere Marquette Park, both in Muskegon County, and the Grand Haven Lighthouse and the Holland Harbor Light, both in Ottawa County.

Ships and Museums: Multiple museums and historic ships highlight the maritime history of West Michigan. In Berrien County, the Michigan Maritime Museum is located in South Haven and Muskegon County is the home of the Great Lakes Memorial and Museum. Part of the Great Lake Memorial and Museum includes two ships, the USS Silversides submarine

and the US Coast Guard Cutter McClane. Also located in Muskegon is the Milwaukee Clipper, a former car ferry that ran the route between Muskegon and Milwaukee from 1941 until 1970 and the LST 393, a Landing Ship–Tank, which played a role on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day.

Lumber Era: The lumbering era played a large role in the development of Michigan. By 1869, Michigan was producing more lumber than any other state. This boom had a huge impact on Michigan’s economy and also changed the natural environment. The wealth produced during this era can be seen in the Hackley and Hume Historic sites in downtown Muskegon.

Cultural

There are many sites along the route of the West Michigan Pike that tell the story, or explore the traditions of past cultures. For example, in Holland, Nelis’ Dutch Village, Windmill Island Gardens, and the Holland Museum all contribute to an understanding of the role Dutch immigrants played in the history and culture of the area.

In addition to these insights into cultures of the past, there are a wide variety of cultural offerings to be found when traveling the modern day Pike. The Box Factory for the Arts (Berrien County), the Ox-Bow School for the Arts in Saugatuck, and the South Haven Center for the Arts all are good examples of cultural opportunities along the route. Performing arts also have a place along the Pike, as can be seen in the Red Barn Theater in Saugatuck and the Frauenthal Theater in downtown Muskegon.

		Intrinsic Qualities (Oceana County)					
Rating	Attraction	Historic	Scenic	Archeological	Cultural	Recreational	Natural
4 or 5	Sable Point Lighthouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
3	Hart Historic District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Silver Lake Sand Dunes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Mac Woods Dune Rides		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	Hart to Montague Trail		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	Mears State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

		Intrinsic Qualities (Muskegon County)					
Readiness Rating	Attraction	Historic	Scenic	Archeaological	Cultural	Recreational	Natural
.5	Frauenthal Theater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Hackley Hume Historic Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
.5	Getty 4 Drive In Theater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Hackley Park Civil War Statues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
.5	Michigan's Adventure					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	White River Light Station and Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Great Lakes Memorial and Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
3 or 4	USS LST 393				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3 or 4	Milwaukee Clipper					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
.5	Pere Marquette Park and Lighthouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Muskegon Heritage Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
4 or 5	Muskegon Museum of Art				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	P.J. Hoffmaster State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Muskegon State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Duck Lake State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

		Intrinsic Qualities (Ottawa County - Grand Haven Area)					
Readiness Rating	Attraction	Historic	Scenic	Archeaological	Cultural	Recreational	Natural
5	World's Largest Musical Fountain		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Grand Haven State Park Beach		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	2.5 Mile Boardwalk		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4	Grand Haven Lighthouse and Pier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
4 or 5	Trolley Tours		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	Historic Downtown Grand Haven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
5	Lake Michigan Charter Fishing					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	Rosy Mound Dunes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	Train Depot Museum		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

		Intrinsic Qualities (Ottawa County - Holland Area)					
Readiness Rating	Attraction	Historic	Scenic	Archeaological	Cultural	Recreational	Natural
4 or 5	Cappon House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Old City Hall and Fire Station	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Historic Downtown Holland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
5	Holland Harbor Light - Holland State Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Hope College	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
5	Holland Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	Holland Street Performers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Holland Historic District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
5	Windmill Island Gardens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	Nellis Dutch Village	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Pillar Church	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
5	Holland State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

		Intrinsic Qualities (Allegan County)					
Readiness Rating	Attraction	Historic	Scenic	Archeaological	Cultural	Recreational	Natural
4 or 5	Saugatuck Douglas Chain Ferry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	Oval Beach Natural Harbor Area		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Saugatuck Dune Rides		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Mt Baldhead	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Old School House Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Ox-Bow School of Art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	Red Barn Theater		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Historical Society Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Felt Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Star of Saugatuck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	Saugatuck Dunes State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

		Intrinsic Qualities (Van Buren County)					
Readiness Rating	Attraction	Historic	Scenic	Archeological	Cultural	Recreational	Natural
4	Michigan Maritime Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Liberty Hyde Bailey Birthplace & Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3 or 4	Friends Good Will Tall Ship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3	Lindy Lou River Launch		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	South Haven Center for the Arts				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Michigan Flywheelers Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Kal Haven Trail		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	South Haven Light House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Historical Association of South Haven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Van Buren State Park (Dunes & Trail)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

		Intrinsic Qualities (Berrien County)					
Readiness Rating	Attraction	Historic	Scenic	Archeological	Cultural	Recreational	Natural
5	Silver Beach		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Jean Klock Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Lake Michigan Shore Wine Country		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	Silver Beach Center					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4	U-Pick Farms and Farm Markets					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Golf Club at Harbor Shores		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4 or 5	Box Factory for the Arts				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Mary's City of David	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Heritage Museum and Cultural Center	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4 or 5	Warren Woods State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Warren Dunes State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 or 5	Grand Mere State Park		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Chapter 6: Inventory & Assessment

The heavy lifting of the asset inventory was undertaken by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (MSHPO) in the publication “Southwest Michigan Road Map: West Michigan Pike Volumes I & II”, which was completed in 2010. This document contains an extensive inventory of locations along the Pike.

The list of primary attractions was garnered primarily from the existing Michigan Beachtowns website. These attractions were then reviewed and amended by committee members. After being reviewed by the full committee, a number of open house style meetings were held to garner input from the public. Once the committee members had identified those attractions, they were ranked using a tourism readiness survey; evaluating items such as parking availability, regular hours of operation, and level of visitor services available.

The following system was used to rank the level of “tourism readiness” of the primary resources along the byway. The various classifications analyze the capacity of facilities, parking, restrooms, and other services.

Score	Site Criteria
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Can handle one or more motor coach at one time (60 or more visitors)- Has adequate parking- Has adequate visitor services such as restrooms, handicap accessibility, etc.- Has regular posted hours of operation, year round or seasonal- Has a high degree of “authenticity” for the program or services its providing- Has clear highway orientation signage to the site- May already be listed in state or national travel guides, such as AAA guidebooks
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meets the same criteria as a top-ranked site but may be smaller in size- It can handle 60 or less visitors at one time- Has parking available relative to facility size and or location
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Is typical of small museums or historic homes and structures- Has limited facility carrying capacity, usually 30 or less visitors at one time- Has limited dedicated parking but has “on street” parking available- Has limited/reduced hours of operation. e.g., only open on weekends- May not have directional signage from the byway- May need additional work to upgrade its authenticity or readiness
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The lowest level of acceptable tourism readiness

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can only handle small numbers of visitors at one time - Has limited or no dedicated parking area and may have limited street parking - Has no public restrooms - Has no orientation or directional signage to the site - Has limited hours or none posted
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not “tourism ready” - No posted hours of operation - Limited parking - No signage to find site - No public services
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not physically accessible to visitors - Easily seen by visitors by a drive by or can be viewed as a vista or viewpoint - Should be included in the tourism readiness inventory if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It has unique or significant scenic or historic value - Visitors can easily see it - It has authenticity in its design or tells a story significant to the byway - It may have some other value that is important to telling the story of the byway

Each attraction was assessed according to these criteria. A summary of key characteristics and the overall score assigned are listed below. Note that lodging facilities were excluded from this analysis.

West Michigan Pike Berrien County



Berrien Points of Interest

- 1 - Weko Beach
- 2 - Jean Klock Park
- 3 - Silver Beach Center
- 4 - Mary's City of David
- 5 - Box Factory for the Arts
- 6 - Harbor Shores Golf Club
- 7 - Silver Beach County Park
- 8 - Heritage Museum & Cultural Center
- 9 - West Michigan Shore Wine Country

Map Features

- City
- Township
- West Michigan Pike
- Historical Pike Route
- State Trunkline
- ★ Beachtown Point of Interest
- Other Point of Interest



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Berrien County

Jean Klock Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic, Recreational, Natural



Jean Klock Park is an historic city park along Lake Michigan in Benton Harbor. J. N. Klock and his wife Carrie bought a significant stretch of lakeshore including tall dunes and 2,950 feet of shoreline from E. K. Warren, donor of Warren Dunes, and deeded the land to the City of Benton Harbor. They gave the land in memory of their daughter, Jean, who died in early childhood. The Klock deed stipulates that the property be used for bathing beach, park purposes, or other public purposes.

Website: <https://bhcity.us/parks-recreation/>

- Months and hours of operation: 8am–10pm Memorial Day through Labor Day
- Entry fee: \$2
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? bath houses
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 983-0586

Silver Beach Center

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Silver Beach Center includes six popular tourist attractions: Whirlpool Compass Fountain, Silver Beach Carousel, Curious Kids' Discovery Zone by Curious Kids' Museum, Silver Beach Amusement Park Museum, Michigan's tallest kaleidoscope and Shadowland on Silver Beach.

Website: <http://www.silverbeachcarousel.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: Memorial Day through Labor Day, hours vary by season and day of week, see website for more details
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: Available for a nominal fee behind the Silver Beach Center/Silver Beach Carousel or across Whirlpool Centennial Park, one block south of the Carousel. Also along Lake Blvd. at the top of the bluff in downtown St. Joseph.
- Restrooms? public bathrooms
- Handicap accessible? Sidewalks are paved. Operators and volunteers are pleased to assist with step ladders or a helping hand. Wheelchair ramp available for easy accessibility onto deck. Sea Serpent Chariot accommodates two wheelchairs or one wheelchair and sitting companion. Operators and volunteers are pleased to assist you with step ladders or a helping hand.
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 932-1141

Mary's City of David

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



Mary's City of David was nominated by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office in 2008 and received the official listing upon the National Register of Historic Places in America from the Department of the Interior in Washington on April 15, 2009. The museum, tours, and events at Mary's City of David is located on the Historic Properties of the reorganization of the Israelite House of David 1930, and is today America's third oldest Christian communal society.

Website: <http://www.maryscityofdavid.org/html/museum.html>

- Months and hours of operation: 10am-5pm
- Entry fee: age 10+ \$2
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 925-1601

Box Factory for the Arts

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural



The Box Factory for the Arts, owned by the Berrien Artists' Guild, is a multi-use arts center that includes artist studios, galleries, a performance stage, classrooms, Art Shoppe, meeting space, and more. Two floors of the 55,000-square-foot building have been devoted to the arts since 1995 when members of the Berrien Artist Guild, Inc., a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, purchased the historic (c. 1903) Williams Brothers Paper Box Factory.

Website: <http://boxfactoryforthearts.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: 10am-4pm Monday–Saturday (*closed Sundays and major holidays*)
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 983-3688

The Golf Club at Harbor Shores

Tourism Readiness Level #:4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational



The Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course challenges golfers over diverse terrain that runs along the Paw Paw River and Ox Creek, through a hardwood forest, and around the dunes - making it ideal for one of the game's premier events. The Golf Course hosted the 2012 & 2014 Senior PGA Championships.

Website: <http://www.harborshoresgolf.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: Open seasonally, see website for available tee times.
- Entry fee: varies
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (269) 927-GOLF

Silver Beach

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational, Natural



Located below the bluff in downtown St. Joseph on Lake Street, Silver Beach is a favorite destination for a variety of beach and river front activities; ranging from swimming and beach volleyball to sunset strolls, playground structures, barrier-free walkways, and the Shadowland Pavilion. Voted as one of the "Top Ten Beaches" by Parents Magazine and in the "Top Six Beaches in the World" by Delta Sky Magazine. Silver Beach was also named the number three most under-rated beach in the US by BBC.

Website: <http://www.berriencounty.org/1295/Silver-Beach-County-Park>

- Months and hours of operation: open year round 8am-10pm
- Entry fee: \$6
- Parking facilities: free parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 925-6301

Heritage Museum & Cultural Center

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The Heritage Museum & Cultural Center provides an ideal setting for interpreting the history of the St. Joseph-Benton Harbor area. In addition to exhibits, they also present various programs and lectures, as well as preserving the rich cultural heritage of the Fort Miami region and the twin cities area through their library, archival and artifact collections.

Website: <https://theheritagemcc.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm, Thursday 10am-8pm
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: parking lot and public parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 983-1191

Lake Michigan Shore Wine Country

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational



Visit 12 wineries and numerous tasting rooms along beautiful Lake Michigan as you tour the Southwest Michigan Wine Trail. Taste, tour and enjoy the vast selection of wine from Michigan's Great Southwest.

Website: <http://miwinetrail.com/>

- Includes 12 wineries and numerous tasting rooms along Lake Michigan.
- Months and hours of operation: Varies, listed for each participating property on the website.
- Entry fee: varies by venue
- Parking facilities: parking lots
- Restrooms? at the wineries
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: on website, form to submit with question

U-Pick Farms and Farm Market

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4

Intrinsic values: Recreational, Natural



Over 60 roadside markets, pick-your-own-farms, and farmers markets. Southwest Michigan's temperate climate has helped Michigan to lead the nation in growing tart cherries and blueberries and to be one of the top 10 states for apples, plums, sweet cherries, asparagus, grapes, snap green beans, pears, strawberries, sweet corn, cauliflower, peaches, cucumbers and wine.

Website: <http://www.pickyourown.org/MIsouthwest.htm>

- Months and dates of operation: Varies, listed for individual properties on the website.
- Entry fee: varies by venue
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? varies by farm
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: see website for contact information for each venue

Warren Woods State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational, Natural



Warren Woods is a 311-acre state park near the town of Three Oaks. It is leased by private owners to the state of Michigan. The woods are named for Edward Kirk Warren (1847-1919), the inventor of the featherbone corset. Starting in 1879, Warren bought 150 acres of the woods and 250 acres of the dunes, setting it aside for preservation.

The park has few facilities and is administered by nearby Warren Dunes State Park.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/details.aspx?id=505&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation:
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry
- Parking facilities: Parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact:

Warren Dunes State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational, Natural



Warren Dunes State Park provides 1,952 acres of recreational opportunities along the beautiful shore of Lake Michigan in southwestern Michigan. The rugged dune formation rises 260 feet above the lake and offers spectacular views and excellent for hang gliding. The park has three miles of shoreline, six miles of hiking trails and is open year-round.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/ParksandTrails/Details.aspx?id=504&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation: Year round
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: 269-426-4013

Grand Mere State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational, Natural



Grand Mere State Park is characterized by magnificent sand dunes, deep blowouts and one mile of Lake Michigan shoreline. Three inland lakes lie behind the dunes in the undeveloped natural area.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=450&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation:
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible?
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: 269-426-4013

St. Joseph Lighthouses

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic,



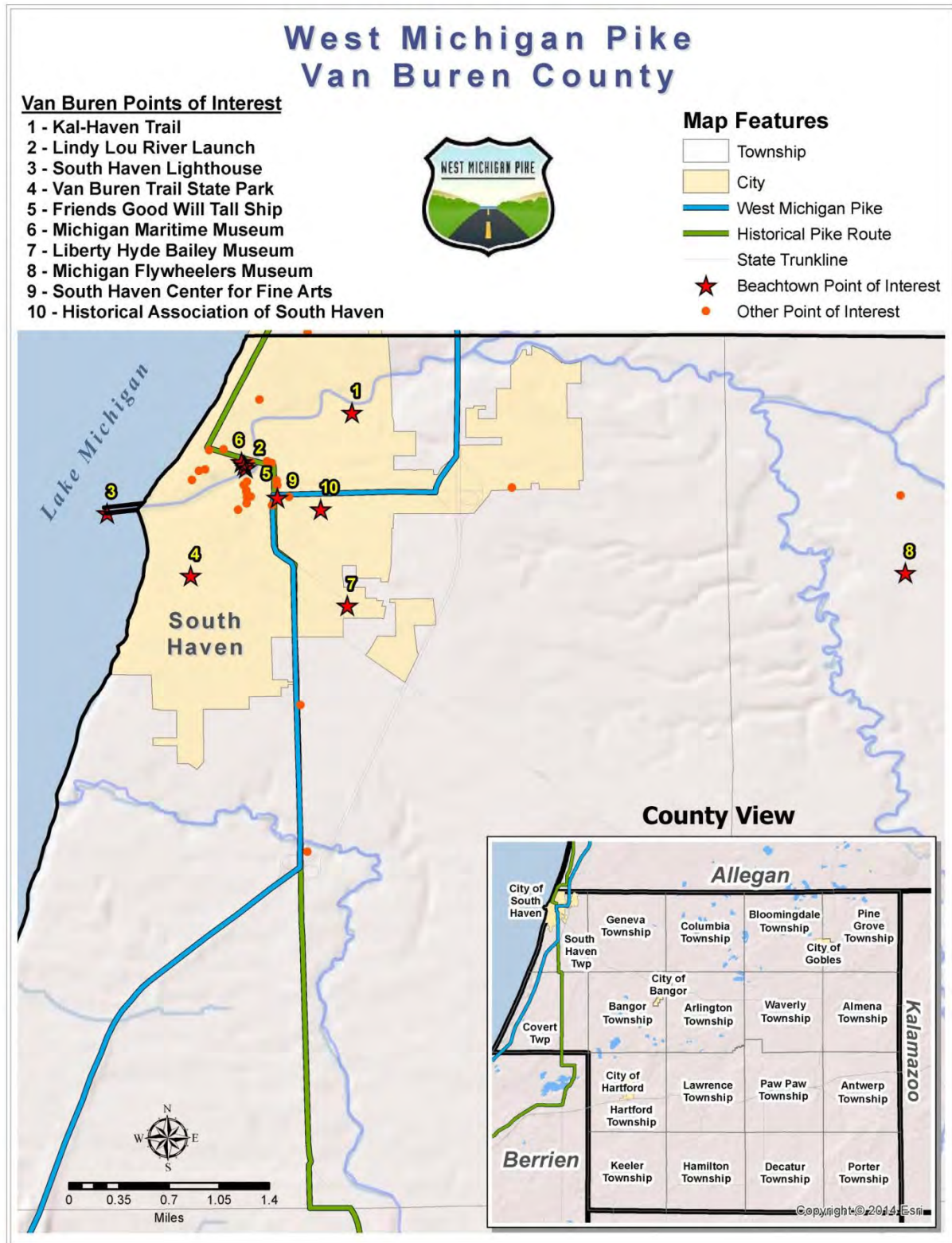
Construction began on harbor piers in 1836, and by 1848 a beacon light had been established on the pier. The onshore lighthouse was replaced in 1859, and a new pier head beacon was constructed on the south pier in 1870. In 1881, this beacon was transferred to the north pier. In 1897 a pole light was erected 400 feet shoreward to serve as a rear range light. In 1904, the pier was extended, and the range lights were moved lake-ward. In 1906/07, the present set of range lights was constructed.

The 1859 lighthouse remained in use until 1919, when a tower was erected on the south pier. It was demolished in 1955. In 2008, the north pier inner and outer range lights were deemed excess. Ownership of the lights was transferred to the city of St. Joseph in 2013.

Website: <https://stjoelighthouse tours.wordpress.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: open until 9pm
- Entry fee: No
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? No
- Handicap accessible?
- Directions on website: Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 982-0032

Van Buren County



Kal-Haven Trail

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Kal-Haven Trail State Park is a 34-mile crushed limestone path connecting South Haven and Kalamazoo. The trail meanders through wooded areas, past farm lands and over rivers and streams. Trail highlights include a camelback bridge and covered bridge. Trails are great for cross-country skiing, hiking and biking. There is an 11 mile parallel section where horses are allowed. The staging area for horses is at 67th street and baseline.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/ParksandTrails/Details.aspx?id=353&type=SPTR>

- Months and hours of operation:
- Entry fee: Free
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible?
- Directions on website: Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: South Haven Visitors Bureau (800) 764-2836

Lindy Lou River Launch

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational



The Lindy Lou is a replica of a Truscott River Launch, originally built in St. Joseph, Michigan and found on lakes and rivers throughout the U.S. in at the turn of the last century. It is powered by an electric motor and holds 6 people.

Website: <http://www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org/onwaterexperiences/>

- Months and hours of operation: 10am-5pm seven days a week
- Entry fee: adults \$8, senior \$7, child \$5
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (269) 637-8078

South Haven Lighthouse

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic,



For over 100 years the lighthouse has guarded the entrance of the Black River. The first lighthouse was made of wood and was built in 1871. The second was made of steel; it was built in 1903 and is still in use today. The original pier and catwalk were made of wood and the pier was about 300' long. In 1913 the pier was extended to 700'. In 1925 and 800' steel catwalk was installed. In 1940, both were lengthened to 1200'.

Website: <http://www.southhaven.org/experience/south-haven-historic-lighthouse>

- Months and hours of operation:
- Entry fee: Free
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible?
- Directions on website: Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: Contact: South Haven Visitors Bureau (800) 764-2836

Van Buren Trail State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Van Buren Trail State Park is a 14-mile, linear, multi-use trail that links the cities of Hartford and South Haven. The trail runs through open farmland, blueberry fields, dense brush, and wooded areas. The surface of the trail creates a nice, challenging ride that is more suitable for mountain bikes. There is parking at the Hartford trailhead, but there is currently no DNR-established trailhead in South Haven. Visitors can use the South Haven City lot at the corner of Huron and Kalamazoo Streets and follow the marked road route to the trail. Parking is also available at Van Buren State Park to access the trail via the Van Buren Trail Spur.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=354&type=SPTR>

- Months and hours of operation:
- Entry fee: A Recreation passport is required for motor vehicles entering Van Buren State Park.
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible?
- Directions on website: Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes

Friends Good Will Tall Ship

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3 or 4

Intrinsic values: Historic, Recreational



The dramatic story of Friends Good Will speaks to the history of commerce in the early 1800s, as well as her role in the War of 1812. Stand at her bow, feel the wind on your face, hear the crack of her billowing sails and her 6-pound pivot cannon.

Website: <http://www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org/friendsgoodwill/>

- Months and hours of operation: 10am-5pm seven days a week
- Entry fee: adults \$8, senior \$7, child \$5
- Parking facilities: limited parking in nearby city lots
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes, ramped sidewalks and ramp for the boat
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 637-8078

Michigan Maritime Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4

Intrinsic values: Historic, Cultural



Michigan's most distinguished institution of maritime research, preservation and education.

Website: <http://www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: 10am-5pm seven days a week
- Entry fee: adult \$8, senior \$7, child \$5
- Parking facilities: limited parking in the city lot in front of the museum
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 637-8078

Liberty Hyde Bailey Birthplace & Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



One of the earliest houses in the South Haven area, this National Historic Site is the birthplace of the Horticulturalist Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey. Throughout his life Dr. Bailey worked to make scientific knowledge available to the average gardener. His extensive research, collection and writings on horticulture specific to the small property owner are still a great resource to professional and hobbyist alike.

Website: <http://libertyhydebailey.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: open daily 9am-5pm
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: Located along the south side of the museum property on the edge of the hospital parking lot, accessible by S. Bailey Ave. Handicap-accessible parking is available via the small driveway just north of the museum off of S. Bailey Ave.
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 637-3251

Michigan Flywheelers Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3

Intrinsic values: Historic, Cultural

The Michigan Flywheelers Museum is a 501(c)(3) organization of volunteers dedicated to the restoration and preservation of antique gas/steam engines and tractors. Located on close to 80 acres, the museum features displays of old farm machinery, a sawmill and shingle mill along with “Old Towne” – a 1920s era community filled with businesses like Over The Forge blacksmith shop, Albert & Sons Farm Machinery Repair and Old Tyme Jail.

Website: <https://michiganflywheelers.org>

- Months and hours of operation: The museum hosts three events every year – Farm History Day in May, the Swap Meet in June and its largest event – the Antique Engine and Tractor Show in September
- Entry fee: \$7.00 per person
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: 269-906-0654

South Haven Center for the Arts

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3

Intrinsic values: Cultural



The South Haven Art League was organized in 1951 under the sponsorship of the American Association of University Women. The original purpose of the Art League was to encourage individual artists to go into the field and to create an interest in and foster the growth of art in the community.

Website: <https://www.southhavenarts.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: Tuesday through Friday 10am-4pm, Saturday 1-4pm, closed Sunday and Monday
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: No
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 637-1041

Historical Association of South Haven

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historical

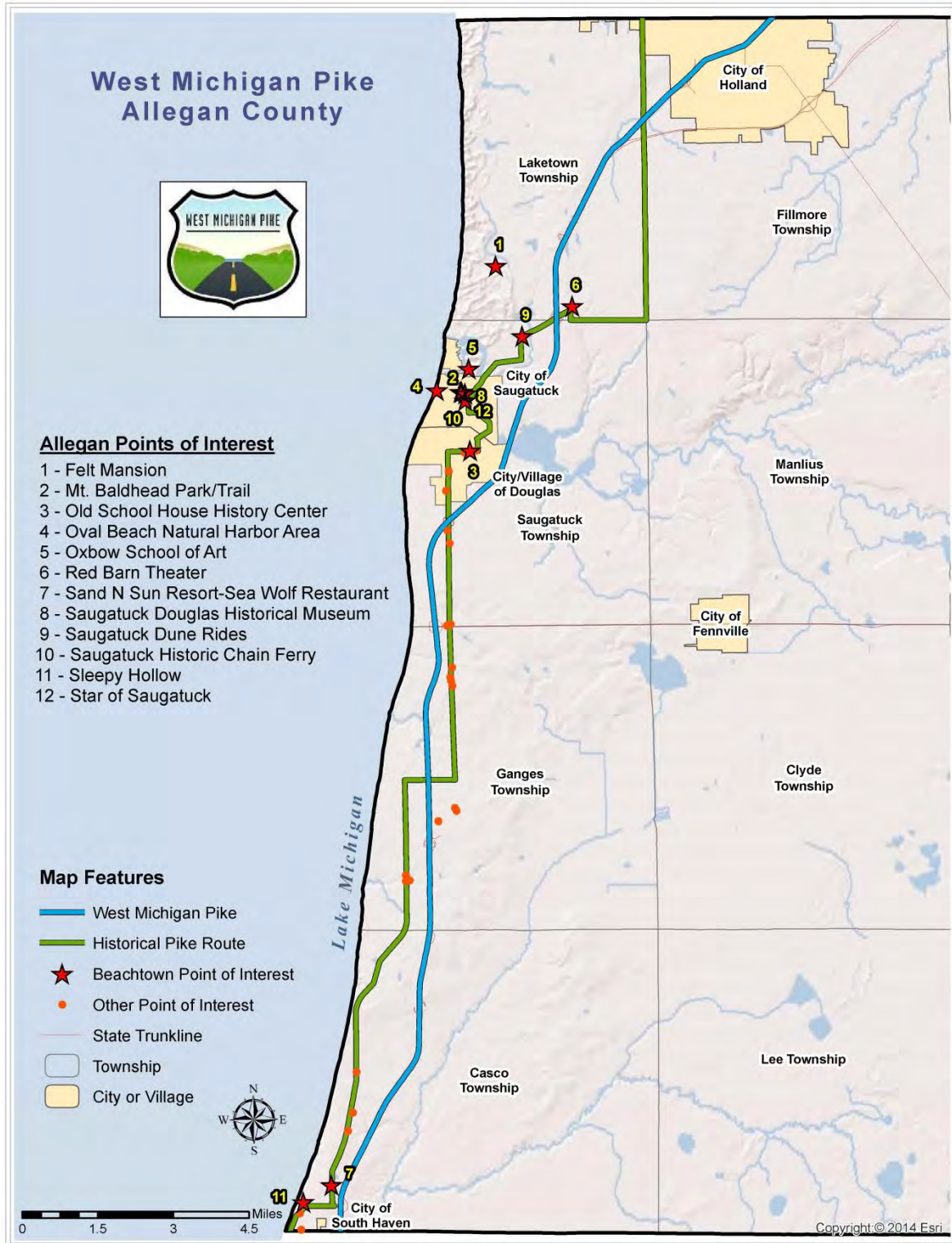


The Historical Association of South Haven has its home in the old Hartman School Building, located at 355 Hubbard Street, South Haven. The Historical Association's Old Hartman School Building is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:00am to 3:30pm, and Sunday 1-4 from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Website: <https://historyofsouthhaven.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:00am to 3:30pm, and Sunday 1-4 from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 637-6424

Allegan County



Felt Mansion

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic, and Recreational



The Felt Estate was once the luxurious summer home and hobby of self-made millionaire and inventor Dorr E. Felt. The mansion, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Michigan State Register of Historic Sites, retains the architectural beauty of a bygone era and offers a glimpse into the wealth and lifestyle of the Roaring 20s - a time cut short by The Great Depression.

Website: <http://www.feltmansion.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: open daily, 9am-5pm
- Entry fee: \$15 adults, \$12 students and seniors, 12 and under free
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes, paved areas and sidewalks
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 335-3050

Mt. Baldhead

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic, Natural



View Oval Beach via this 305 step climb.

Website: <https://www.saugatuck.com/directory/mount-baldhead/>

- Months and hours of operation: Open Memorial day through Labor Day 8am-10pm
- Entry fee: \$10 per vehicle during peak season or season pass available for \$50
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? beach Yes, climb no
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 857-1701

The Old School House Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The 1866 Old School House (The Douglas Union School), is now in the possession of the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society. This stately national landmark is the oldest multi-classroom school building in Michigan and one of the finest examples of 19th century school architecture in America.

Website: <http://sdhistoricalsociety.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: open daily 11am-4pm
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? restrooms across the street at Mt. Baldhead
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (269) 857-5751

Oval Beach Natural Harbor Area

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic, and Recreational



Saugatuck is ranked one of the top five tourist destinations in the Midwest and is home to beautiful Oval Beach cited by Conde Naste, Life Magazine, The Chicago Tribune and National Geographic Traveller Magazine as one of the most beautiful shorelines in the world.

Website: <http://www.saugatuckcity.com/index.php/parks-recreation/saugatuck-harbor-natural-area>

- Months and hours of operation: open daily 9am-10pm
- Entry fee: \$10
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 857-2603

Ox-Bow School of Art

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Recreational



Ox-Bow is the Chicago Institute of Art's summer school of painting in Saugatuck. Ox-Bow's campus encompasses 115-acres of pristine natural forests, dunes, a lagoon, and historic buildings. Ox-Bow has been in operation for over 100 years and continues to provide an immersive environment for artists to explore traditional and contemporary modes of art-making.

Website: <http://www.ox-bow.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: open year round
- Entry fee: none to visit, fees for classes
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (269) 857-5811

Red Barn Theater

Tourism Readiness Level #: 2 or 3

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The Red Barn Theater is one of the last remaining Red Barn Playhouses in the United States. Popularized in the 1930s, enjoy community theater and arts at Saugatuck's historic Red Barn.

- Months and hours of operation: open when shows are in progress
- Entry fee: ticket price
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (269) 857-8388

Historical Society Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The Saugatuck-Douglas Museum is one of Michigan's best-known and most-visited small town museums, annually drawing nearly 10,000 visitors to its exhibits and more than 40,000 visitors to its outdoor garden and harbor-front walkway.

Website: <http://sdhistoricalsociety.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: 9am-5pm
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? across the street
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (269) 857-5751

Saugatuck Dune Rides

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic, and Recreational



Enjoy an invigorating ride thru pristine sand dunes for 35-40 minutes of exciting entertainment, fun and education. Learn of the lost town of Singapore.

Website: <http://www.saugatuckduneride.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: open every day early May through September, weekends only in October, check website for exact dates and times.
- Entry fee: adults \$20, children 3-11 \$11, children 2 and under free
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? will place the individuals near the front so it's less bumpy if necessary
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 857-2253

Saugatuck Historic Chain Ferry

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic, Recreational



Saugatuck Michigan has the last remaining hand-cranked chain ferry in America. It operates only in the summer and it takes visitors across the Kalamazoo River by an operator hand-cranking it along a chain that stretches across the river. Saugatuck has had a ferry crossing on the river since 1838.

Website: <https://www.saugatuck.com/directory/saugatuck-chain-ferry/>

- Months and hours of operation: open daily 9am-6pm
- Entry fee: \$1
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? public restrooms in Saugatuck
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (269) 857-1701

Star of Saugatuck

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic, Recreational



The Star of Saugatuck takes visitors on a narrated tour of the history of the area while viewing the harbor and the river and wetlands leading to Lake Michigan. Visitors will enjoy sitting back and relaxing while listening to the water running off the paddlewheels as you gently glide down the Kalamazoo River.

Website: <http://www.saugatuckboatcruises.com/>

- Takes visitors on a narrated paddlewheel tour of the history of the area while viewing the harbor and the river and wetlands leading to Lake Michigan.
- Months and hours of operation: open May-October
- Entry fee: adults \$20, children 6-12 \$9, children 3-5 \$5.50, 2 and under free
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? available onboard and dockside
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (269) 857-4261

Saugatuck Dunes State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational

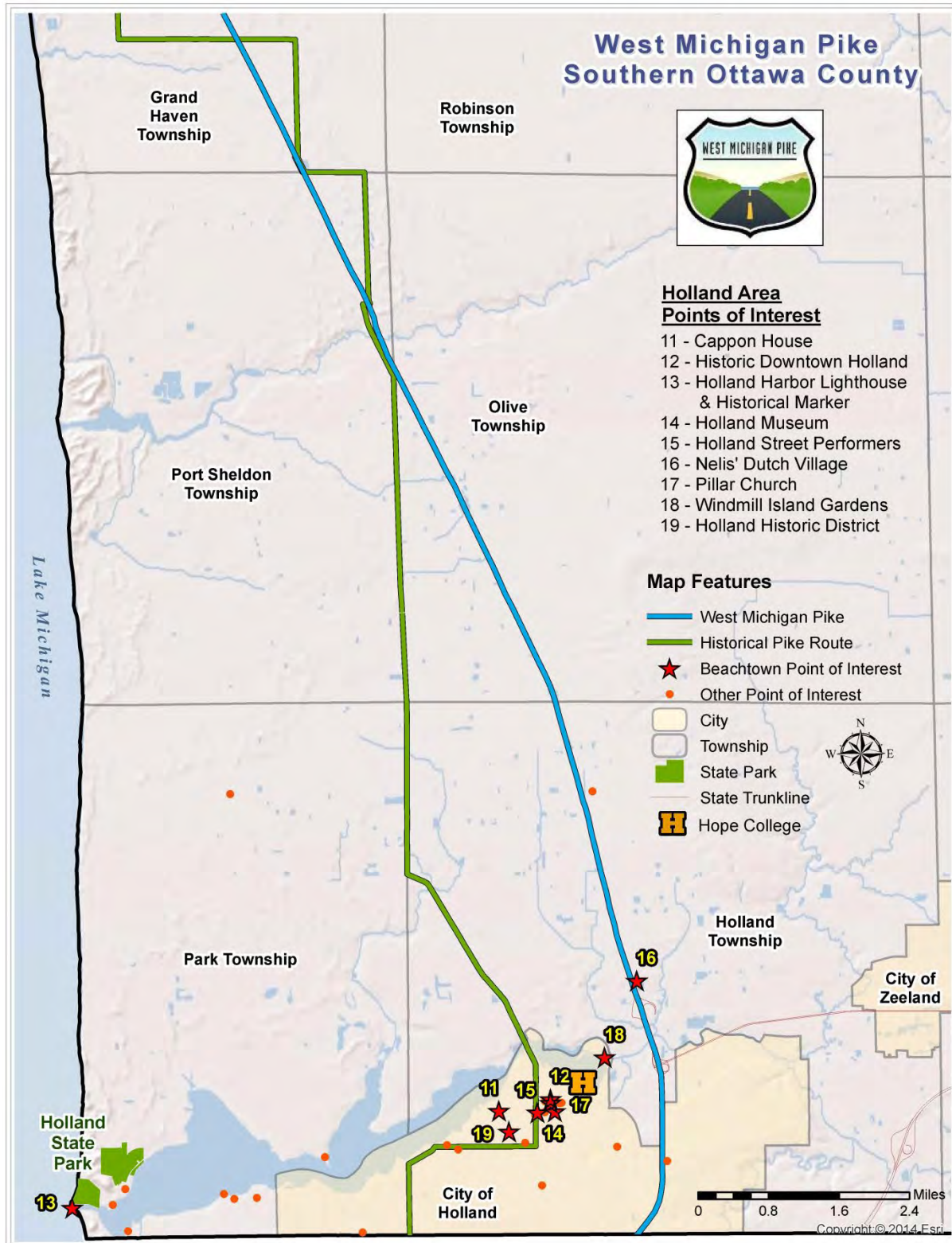


Saugatuck Dunes is a day-use park along a secluded strip of Lake Michigan shoreline; Saugatuck Dunes State Park offers 2.5 miles of shore line. The park has fresh water coastal dunes that are over 200 feet tall. The park's terrain varies from steep slopes to rolling hills.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/ParksandTrails/Details.aspx?id=491&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation:
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry.*
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: 269-637-2788

Ottawa County – Holland Area



Cappon House

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



Dutch immigrant architect Jan R. Kleyn designed this Italianate style house for Holland's first mayor and tannery owner, Isaac Cappon, and his large family. Owned by the Cappon's from 1873 until 1980, the home's stately interior is furnished with one of the country's largest collections of early Grand Rapids furniture in its original setting. The Cappon House was comprehensively restored between 2000 - 2004, including the reproduction of original wallpapers, floor coverings and silk upholstery material. A Visitor Center in the Cappon barn is the starting point for touring both the Cappon House and the nearby Settlers House.

Website: <http://www.holland.org/listings/Cappon-House-Museum/49/>

- Months and hours of operation: 9am-5pm
- Entry fee: \$5 per person
- Parking facilities: parking lot behind the museum or street parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes, handicap entrance on the east side of the building
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 392-9084

Old City Hall and Fire Station

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The old Holland City Hall/Engine House No. 2 is a two-story buff brick building with dark red painted trim. It was built in 1883-1884, with a low, one-story flat-roof addition added in 1941. The narrow deep structure contained the engine house downstairs and the common council meeting room upstairs. The structure's principal decorative feature is its seemingly Dutch Revival pointed gable-roof, housing a hose-drying tower that allowed 50-foot fire hoses to be hung straight down.

Months and hours of operation: 11am-6pm

- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: public parking in Holland
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (517) 373-3559

Historic Downtown Holland

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



Cobblestone sidewalks, Victorian streetlights, park benches and beautiful bronze statues invite shoppers to wander the streets of this award-winning downtown. Designated as an historic district by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Downtown Holland has won numerous awards, including the Great American Main Street Award. With over 100 shops, galleries and eateries, downtown delights people of all ages.

Website: <http://www.holland.org/things-to-do/downtown/>

- Months and hours of operation: area always open, individual shops and restaurants each have own hours
- Entry fee: free
- Parking facilities: free public parking
- Restrooms? public restrooms in Holland
- Handicap accessible? Yes, paved sidewalks
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 394-0000

Holland Harbor Light - Holland State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic,



"Big Red" lighthouse, as it is affectionately known, has welcomed boaters to Holland for almost 140 years. The first lighthouse was erected in 1872; however the structure as we now know it became a reality in 1936. Originally painted pale yellow, the color was changed to bright red in 1956 to satisfy a Coast Guard mandate that all structures on the right side of harbor entrances must be red. In 1971 the Coast Guard declared Big Red to be surplus, so local townsfolk formed the Holland Harbor Lighthouse Historical Commission, taking ownership of it in 1974 and installing a new light that shines for 20 miles.

Website: <http://www.holland.org/listings/Big-Red-Lighthouse/372/>

- Months and hours of operation: open until 9pm
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry.*
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? restrooms in the state park
- Handicap accessible? boardwalk is wheelchair accessible
- Directions on website: Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 394-0000

Holland Historic District

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The residential neighborhoods immediately south of downtown, from 10th Street to 14 Streets, contain hundreds of period homes and several outstanding churches built between 1890 and 1930. 12th Street, between College Avenue and Washington Avenue, is filled with many outstanding restored homes, as well as Third Reformed Church.

Website: <http://www.cityofholland.com/planningzoningandhistoricpreservation/historic-preservation>

- Months and hours of operation: always open
- Entry fee: none
- Parking facilities: free public parking
- Restrooms? public restrooms
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616) 355-1362

Hope College

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



Hope College is recognized as one of the nation's outstanding liberal arts colleges. Hope grew up with Holland, founded soon after the city's beginnings. Hope has the distinction of being the only private, liberal arts college with national accreditation in art, dance music and theatre. Just two blocks from downtown, Hope's campus of 3,200 students provides beautiful landscapes and architecture and adds vibrancy to the community.

Website: <http://www.hope.edu/index.html>

- Months and hours of operation: always open
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: public parking

- Restrooms? in classroom buildings
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website: Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616) 395-7000

Holland Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



This beautiful building was completed in 1915 to serve as Holland's first post office. It has been given new life as the Holland Museum, ensuring that its stately pillars and distinctive Classical Revival architecture will be enjoyed by future generations. Of special note are the 2nd floor Dutch galleries, a spectacular collection of 17th, 18th and 19th century Dutch art and furniture.

Website: <http://hollandmuseum.org/>

- Months and hours of operations: 9am-5pm
- Entry fee: adults \$7, seniors \$6, students \$4, members and children 5 and under free
- Parking facilities: parking lot behind the museum on 9th street or street parking available along 10th Street
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes, on east side of building
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616)392-9084

Holland Street Performers

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Recreational

The popular Downtown Street Performance Series takes place every Thursday night in the summer. Regional, national, and international artists from all backgrounds perform free for the public, filling the streets of Holland's historic downtown with musicians, magicians, mimes, break dancers, aerial acrobats, jugglers, and much, much more.

Website: <http://www.downtownholland.com/get-involved/street-performers/>

- Months and hours of operation: Thursday nights
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? public restrooms
- Handicap accessible? Yes, paved sidewalks
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (800) 506-1299

Windmill Island Gardens

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



A palette of color awaits you as you wind along the entrance to Holland's treasured island. Tour up into DeZwaan, the only authentic Dutch windmill operating in the United States. From the top, you can survey 36 acres of manicured gardens, dikes, and canals. Costumed guides, an Amsterdam street organ, a hand-painted Dutch carousel, and gift shops will complete your visit.

Website: <http://www.cityofholland.com/windmillislandgardens>

- Months and hours of operations: April 15th-October 1st in 2017, 9:30am-6pm, tickets sold until 5pm
- Entry fee: adults \$9, youth (3-15) \$5
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible?
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 355-1030

Nelis' Dutch Village

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic, Recreational

Step back in time to the Netherlands of the 1800's, recreated with authentic Dutch architecture and performers in traditional Dutch costumes and wooden shoes. Demonstrations include Dutch cheese-making, delft painting, wooden shoe carving and a costume presentation. An authentic Amsterdam street organ plays while dancers perform age-old Dutch folk dances.

Website: <http://www.dutchvillage.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: daily 10am-6pm.
- Entry fee: adult \$12, senior \$11, children 3-15 \$10
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes, paved sidewalks
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 396-1475

Pillar Church

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



Founded by the Reverend Albertus VanRaalte, Pillar Church was dedicated in 1856. This Greek Revival building is listed on the National Historic Register and is one of the few buildings that survived the devastating fire of 1871, which destroyed much of Holland. There is a small museum honoring Reverend Van Raalte in the church basement, and a traditional Dutch church service takes place during Holland's annual Tulip Time Festival each May.

Website: <http://pillarchurch.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: open Monday-Thursday 9am-4:30pm, Sunday worship 9am and 10:30am
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 392-8686

Ottawa County - Grand Haven Area



World's Largest Musical Fountain

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Recreational

The fountain in Grand Haven was built in 1962 with private dollars. In one typical performance the fountain will process over 90,000 gallons of water with a synchronized display of water, lights and music. Enjoy this Grand Haven favorite every summer evening at dusk with special performances during May and September.

Website: <http://visitgrandhaven.com/things/attractions/musical-fountain/>

- Months and hours of operation: open all the time, night shows c. 9:50pm
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: public parking in downtown Grand Haven
- Restrooms? public restrooms in the downtown area
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616)842-4499

Grand Haven State Park Beach

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Beautiful sandy shore on Lake Michigan along the west side of the park and the Grand River along the north side of the park. The park consists entirely of beach sand and provides scenic views of Lake Michigan and the Grand Haven pier and lighthouse.

Website: <http://visitgrandhaven.com/listing/grand-haven-state-park/>

- Months and hours of operation: open until 10pm
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry.
- Parking facilities: parking lots throughout the park
- Restrooms? modern restrooms
- Handicap accessible? beach house, fishing pier, concessions and stores, picnic shelter and playground
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616)847-1309

Boardwalk

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



The boardwalk is 2 1/2 miles and runs along the harbor, which is lined with shops, restaurants, marinas, and charter fishing boats. While it's a great place for a brisk walk, there are plenty of grassy knolls and benches for idlers who prefer people and boat watching. The boardwalk continues along The Grand River and travels out to Lake Michigan where you can walk the pier and take photos of the lighthouse.

Website: <http://visitgrandhaven.com/things/attractions/boardwalk/>

- Runs along the harbor, lined with shops, restaurants, marinas, and charter fishing boats, continues along the Grand River and out to Lake Michigan and the lighthouse.
- Months and hours of operation: always open
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: downtown Grand Haven
- Restrooms? public restrooms in the Grand Haven area
- Handicap accessible? paved walkway
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616) 842-4499

Grand Haven Lighthouse and Pier

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4

Intrinsic values: Historic, Recreational



Established in 1839, two lights on the south pier, both painted red, are connected by a lighted catwalk that also connects them to the shore and the Boardwalk. The inner light is cylindrical and the square outer light stands on a huge concrete foundation.

Website: <http://visitgrandhaven.com/things/attractions/lighthouse/>

- Months and hours of operation: open until 10pm
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: in downtown Grand Haven
- Restrooms? public restrooms along boardwalk
- Handicap accessible? paved walkway
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616)842-4499

Trolley Tours

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic, Recreational



Harbor Transit offers public transportation services in the Grand Haven area. The Harbor Trolley operates every day from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, and offers a narrated tour of the area. What a great way to experience some of the history and culture of the area.

Website: <http://visitgrandhaven.com/things/attractions/trolley/>

- Months and hours of operation: Memorial Day through Labor, seven days a week from 11am to 10pm with pickup locations at Chinook Pier, Boardwalk, the State Park, The Bookman and Pfaff Pharmacy.
- Entry fee: 60 years and older \$0.75, 19–59 \$1.50, 18 and under \$0.75, persons with a disability \$0.75, under 2 years free
- Parking facilities: public parking in downtown Grand Haven
- Restrooms? public restrooms in Grand Haven, none on the trolley
- Handicap accessible? ramp available
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616) 842-4499

Historic Downtown Grand Haven

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic,



Less than a mile from the City beach, downtown Grand Haven offers restaurants and specialty shops as well as historic architecture including the site of Grand Haven's first post office which was built in 1872.

Website: <http://downtowngh.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: area always open, individual shops and restaurants each have own hours
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: ample free parking throughout the downtown
- Restrooms? public bathrooms in the area
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616)842-4499

Coast Guard City USA

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Grand Haven is home to the United States Coast Guard's "Group Grand Haven," which coordinates all Lake Michigan Coast Guard activities. The first Coast Guard presence in the city was in 1932. The city hosts the annual Coast Guard Festival, which draws U.S. and Canadian vessels along with parades of bands and other activities. The yearly attendance for this event exceeds 100,000 people over the two-week period of the festival. Grand Haven is one of many cities officially designated as "Coast Guard City, USA" by an act of Congress signed by President Bill Clinton. The act was Public Law 105-383 enacted by the United States Congress and signed by the president on November 13, 1998.

Website: <http://downtowngh.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: area always open, individual shops and restaurants each have own hours
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: ample free parking throughout the downtown
- Restrooms? public bathrooms in the area
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (616)842-4499

Rosy Mound Dunes and Natural Area

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational, Scenic



Rosy Mound is a classic Great Lakes dune system including high wooded dunes, foredunes, beach and a dune blowout. A 0.7 mile (one way) hiking trail from the parking area to the Lake Michigan shoreline includes 1,000 feet of stairs up and down the dunes and scenic views of woods, the dune blowout and Lake Michigan. A unique shade canopy, dune boardwalk trail and pit toilets are located near the beach. Motor vehicle parking fees are in effect from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Rosy Mound is open year round.

Website: <https://www.miottawa.org/Parks/rosymound.htm>

- Months and hours of operation: March 1- October 15 7am-10pm, October 16-February 28 7am-8pm

- Entry fee: \$7 daily, motor vehicle parking fees are in effect from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.
- Parking facilities: paved parking area
- Restrooms? modern near parking lot, rustic pit-style near beach
- Handicap accessible? leader dogs for persons with disabilities are permitted
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 738-4000

Lake Michigan Charter Fishing

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Grand Haven offers one of the largest charter boat fishing fleets on Lake Michigan, guiding anglers to prime waters for king and Coho salmon, brown trout, lake trout, steelhead and perch, and providing everything from licenses to lunch.

Website: <http://www.michigancharterboats.com/page.php?lake=michigan&port=grand%20haven>

- Months and hours of operation: when fishing is in season
- Entry fee: varies by charter
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? public restrooms in Grand Haven
- Handicap accessible? can watch the boats from the paved boardwalk
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No

- Contact: 1-800-622-2971

Historic Train Depot Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

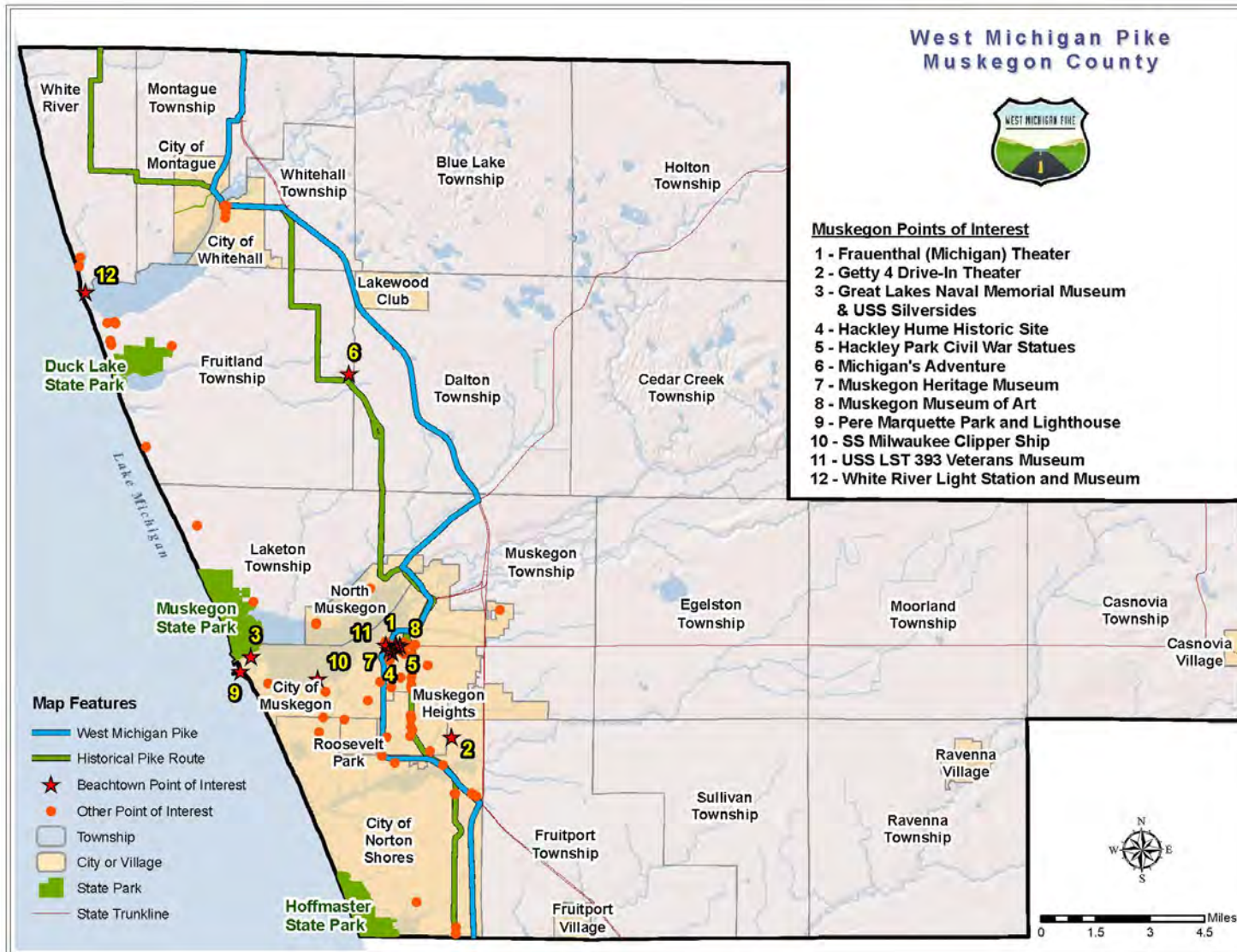
Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic

The Tri-Cities Historical Museum has two locations in the downtown retail district, one housed in the original 1870 Grand Trunk Railroad Depot, the other in the new newly renovated Akeley Building, constructed in 1871. Exhibits range from Coast Guard and maritime to Michigan geology, Native American, the fur trade, lumbering eras plus much more.

Website: <http://visitgrandhaven.com/listing/tri-cities-historical-museum/>

- Months and hours of operation: summer (Memorial Day-Labor Day) Mondays closed, Tuesday-Saturday 10am-8pm, Sundays 12pm-5pm; winter (Labor Day to Memorial Day) Mondays closed, Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday & Sunday 12pm-5pm.
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (616) 842-0700

Muskegon County



The Frauenthal Center for the Performing Arts

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The Frauenthal Center for the Performing Arts combines living history with a dedication to live theater and music. This Spanish renaissance style theater combines living history with a dedication to live theater and music. This gorgeous former "movie palace" is home to the West Michigan Symphony Orchestra, Muskegon Civic Theatre, the Miss Michigan Pageant, and Muskegon Community Concerts.

Website: <http://frauenthal.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: Box office hours are Monday through Friday 11:00am to 5:30pm. On performance days, the box office is open 11am to 30 minutes after curtain (weekdays) and two hours prior to show time until 30 minutes after curtain (weekends).
- Entry fee: Ticket price varies by show.
- Parking facilities: free street parking surrounds the theater with additional free parking lots located nearby at 3rd & Morris and at 5th & Western
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 722-9750

Getty 4 Drive Inn Theater

Intrinsic values: Cultural



The Getty 4 Drive-In is one of only eight operating drive-in theaters in Michigan. Slightly more than 500 remain open nation-wide. Opened on June 3, 1949, as the NK Drive-In. NK stands for Nick Kuris who owned the NK Drive-In. Purchased by Jack Loeks in 1967, it was renamed the Getty Drive-In Theatre. In 1978, 3 additional screens were added and it became known as the Getty 4.

Website: <https://celebrationcinema.com/location/GettyDriveIn>

- Months and hours of operation: 2017 season closes September 11
- Entry fee: adults \$10.50, kids \$7.50
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms: Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231)733-1813

Great Lakes Naval Memorial and Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic



The Great Lakes Naval Memorial and Museum opened in 1987 when the USS Silversides arrived at its new home in Muskegon, Michigan. In 2008, the museum expanded with the construction of the 16,000 square-foot Robert G. Morin Facility. This museum includes a wide range of exhibits and displays focusing on the USS Silversides, World War II, the Pearl Harbor attack, submarines, the Cold War, marine technology, and Great Lakes shipping.

Website: <https://silversidesmuseum.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: open year round 9am-5pm
- Entry fee: \$19
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms: Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: (231)755-1230

Hackley Hume Historic Site

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



This site preserves the homes of Muskegon's most famous lumber baron, Charles H. Hackley, and his business partner, Thomas Hume. The Site envelops the visitor in a unique living space, bringing late 19th century craftsmanship to life. The Hackley House is truly an exquisite example of Victorian architecture and of late nineteenth century interior decorative arts. The furnishings in the home are a mixture of those typical of the era and original family pieces.

Website: <http://www.lakeshoremuseum.org/project/hackley-hume/>

- Months and hours of operation: Main museum: Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:30pm, Saturday: 10am-4pm (May-October) and noon-4pm (November-April). Hackley & Hume Historic Site:

Thursday-Monday 10am-4pm, Sunday 1pm-4pm, Holiday Tours at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Michigan Heritage Park: May and October Monday- Friday, 10am-4pm, June-September Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 10am-4pm, Sunday 1pm-4pm, closed Tuesday and Wednesday.

- Entry fee: Muskegon County residents free, non-Muskegon County residents \$3, youth and 2 and under free
- Parking facilities: free parking on surrounding streets
- Restrooms: Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 722-0278

Hackley Park Civil War Statues

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic



This National Historic Designated Park is a formally designed park dedicated to the memory of Civil War veterans, presented to the City in 1890 by Charles H. Hackley. Its focal point is an eighty foot tall soldier's monument in the center of the park. Statues of Farragut, Sherman, Grant and Lincoln grace the corners of the park. The park creates a strong visual image upon entering the downtown area and provides recreational space for the community.

Website: <http://www.muskegon-mi.gov/departments/parks/hackley-park/>

- Months and hours of operation: open year round
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: public parking around park
- Restrooms? No
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 724-6704

Michigan's Adventure Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Michigan's Adventure is Michigan's largest amusement and water-park, featuring over 60 rides and attractions including a world-class wooden roller coaster, Shivering Timbers. Experience seven roller coasters, three wave pools, tube slides, body slides, thrill rides, and kiddie rides.

Website: <https://www.miadventure.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: vary by season and site (park and waterpark), check website for more details
- Entry fee: 1 day general ticket \$34, 2 day general ticket \$55
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms: Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes, wheelchairs for rent, service dogs allowed, boarding pass programs that allow individuals specific times to ride rides
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231)766-3377

Muskegon Heritage Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic



The Muskegon Heritage Association was formed in 1973 with the purpose of assisting in the preservation and restoration of buildings and homes in the historic district of Muskegon, now called "Heritage Village." Additionally, the Muskegon Heritage Museum is continually working to preserve the industrial heritage of our community and features an operating antique machine shop, a working Corliss Valve Steam Engine, a fully functional 100 year old printing press and much more.

Website: <http://www.muskegonheritage.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: 11am-4pm Thursday- Saturday from mid-May to mid-October, by appointment all year
- Entry fee: adults \$5, students \$2, under 5 free, active duty service men and women free
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 722-1363

Muskegon Museum of Art

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



The Muskegon Museum of Art, founded in 1912, is renowned for its fine permanent collection of American and European paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings. Works by artists such as John Stuart Curry, Edward Hopper, Winslow Homer, William Merritt Chase, Joos Van Cleve, Lucas Cranach, Camille Pissarro, August Rodin, and Alfred Sisley are displayed in the permanent collection galleries. The Muskegon Museum of Art contemporary studio glass collection featuring works by Dale Chihuly, Dante Marioni and others, is considered one of the finest in the Midwest.

Website: <http://www.muskegonartmuseum.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: Sunday noon-5pm, Monday-Wednesday 10am-5pm, Thursday 10am-8pm, Friday-Saturday 10am-5pm. Closed Memorial Day.
- Entry fee: adults \$10, students 17 and up with ID \$7, 16 and under free
- Parking facilities: public parking
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes, handicap entrance in the back of museum
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 720-2570

Pere Marquette Park and Lighthouse

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



This city park, located on Lake Michigan, offers a wide expanse of beach, playground, volleyball courts, a restaurant and access to lighthouses and the Muskegon Channel, also the site of the "USS Silversides," a World War II Submarine and near by a full service restaurant and bar. There is no entrance fee to the park.

Websites: <http://www.muskegon-mi.gov/departments/parks/pere-marquette/>
<http://www.muskegonlights.org/about-the-lights/>

- Months and hours of operation: 9am-10pm
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? 200' handicap walkway
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: 844 MLIGHTS/ muskegonlights@gmail.com

Milwaukee Clipper

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3 or 4

Intrinsic values: Recreational, Historic



The S/S Milwaukee Clipper, also known as S/S Clipper, and formerly as the S/S Juniata, is a mothballed passenger ship and automobile ferry that sailed under two configurations and on two sides of the Great Lakes. The Clipper is the oldest US passenger steamship on the Great Lakes. The vessel is now docked in Muskegon, Michigan.

Website: <http://www.milwaukeeclipper.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: 9am-5pm
- Entry fee: adults \$7, students \$5, children 6 and under free
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? no
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 683-1590

USS LST 393 Veterans' Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3 or 4

Intrinsic values: Historic



Discover the USS LST 393's outstanding wartime record as you tour a nationally renowned veteran's museum with artifacts and displays honoring those who served America and fought for the freedoms we enjoy today.

Website: <http://www.lst393.org/>

- Months and hours of operation: opens for tours at 10am seven days a week, closes at 5pm (last tour ticket sold at 4pm)
- Entry fee: adults \$8, students 5-17 \$5, children 4 and under free
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? No
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 722-4730

White River Light Station and Museum

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



Built in 1875 by Captain William Robinson, the White River Light Station now serves as a physical reminder of the rich nautical history of Michigan. The lighthouse is now open to the public. Includes a spiral staircase to the top of the lighthouse tower, many 19th and early 20th century photographs, collection of nautical artifacts, and views of Lake Michigan.

Website: <http://www.whitelake.org/business/white-river-light-station-museum/>

- Months and hours of operation: for 2017 open Tuesday-Sunday 10am-5pm May 26-September 30 and 11am-4pm October 1-November 4
- Entry fee: \$5 adults, 12 and under \$2
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms: Yes
- Handicap accessible: Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- contact: (231)894-8265

Muskegon State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational, Scenic



The Muskegon State Park has over 1,165 acres on Lake Michigan and Muskegon Lake, with 247 modern and semi-modern campsites, and two mini-cabins. Activities include swimming, picnicking, fishing, boat launch, ice fishing. There are twelve miles of marked and groomed hiking trails, with five miles (8 kilometers) lighted for all levels of cross-country skiers. The park also boasts a replica of an historic fort blockhouse overlooking Lake Michigan and sand dunes.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/details.aspx?id=475&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation: Park is open all year
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: 231-744-3480

P.J. Hoffmaster State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational, Scenic



P. J. Hoffmaster State Park features over three miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, a 293 site modern campground, towering Lake Michigan dunes, and the Gillette Sand Dune Visitor Center. Miles of hiking and skiing trails offer stunning views of Lake Michigan and subtle beauty at every turn.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=457&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation: Park is open all year
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: 231-744-3480

Duck Lake State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4

Intrinsic values: Recreational, Scenic

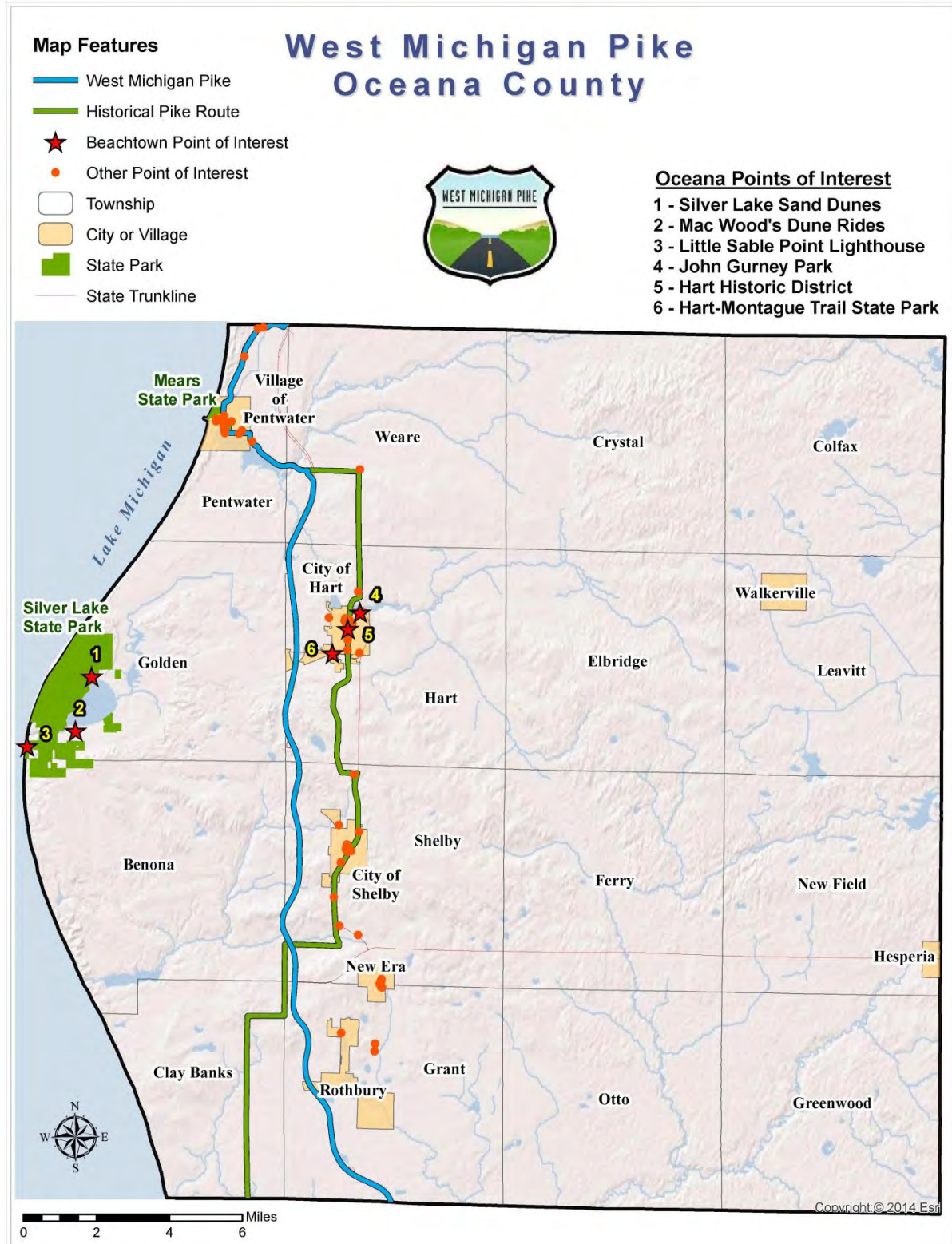


Duck Lake State Park is a day-use park, featuring a towering sand dune; the park stretches from the northern shore of Duck Lake to Lake Michigan. Fishing, hiking, swimming and picnicking, are just some of the activities in this beautiful park.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=446&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation: Park is open all year
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: 231-744-3480

Oceana County



Silver Lake Sand Dunes

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Scenic, Recreational



This natural phenomenon attracts over a million visitors each year. These remarkable sand dunes consist of nearly 2,000 acres of rolling sand hills stretching 1.5 miles wide and 3 miles long bordering Lake Michigan and Silver Lake. The Silver Lake Sand Dunes are still moving and growing while considered one of the largest deposits of living dunes on the shores of Lake Michigan. The dunes are divided into three sections: the northern area is reserved for off-road vehicles, the center region is for hikers, and the southern area is leased to Mac Wood's Dune Rides.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=493&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours of operation: April 1 through October 31.
- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry.*
- Parking facilities: Large parking area. Parking lot vouchers required for ORV area on summer weekends and holidays.
- Restrooms? modern and vault restrooms
- Handicap accessible? handicap-accessible boat launches, restrooms, playgrounds and picnic areas
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 873-3083

Mac Woods Dune Rides

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Historic, Recreational

Mac Wood's Dune Rides was founded in 1930. Enjoy a safe, fun-filled seven mile dune ride over the magnificent Silver Lake Sand Dunes. Your 40 minute ride will be hosted by a knowledgeable driver who understands the history and environment of the ever changing sand dunes. Your exciting ride will also include climbing up the summit, breathtaking panoramic views of the dune area, splashing along Lake Michigan, and driving past sparkling Silver Lake.

Website: <http://macwoodsdunerides.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: May 12-October 8 for the 2017 season (variable hours, see website for details).
- Entry fee: Age 12+ \$18, age 3-11 \$12, age 2 and under free.
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 873-2817, info@macwoodsdunerides.com

Little Sable Point Lighthouse

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Historic, Recreational



Little Sable Point Lighthouse is the tallest brick lighthouse on Lake Michigan. Located in Oceana County, Little Sable Point Lighthouse was completed in 1874 and is considered a "must see" by most locals. The view from the top is spectacular and well worth the 115 foot climb. Little Sable Point Lighthouse is the perfect place to enjoy a picnic, a breathtaking Lake Michigan sunset, or both.

Website: <http://www.thinkdunes.com/things-to-do/little-sable-point-lighthouse/>

- Months and hours of operation: Open daily from 10am to 5pm from late May through mid-late September. Call or visit the Sable Points Lighthouse Keepers Association website to confirm exact dates.

- Entry fee: Michigan Recreation Passport required for entry.* Admission fee for lighthouse \$5 per person or \$2 for under 12s (must be 36" or taller to participate in tour). Guided group tours available with advance booking.
- Parking facilities: large parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes (2 vault-style near parking lot)
- Handicap accessible? path to lighthouse is paved, climb to top of lighthouse includes 130 steps
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 845 7417, splkadirector@gmail.com

John Gurney Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic, Recreational



John Gurney Park was one of several auto tourist camps developed along the West Michigan Pike during the 1920's. A former State Senator and his wife donated 17 acres to the City of Hart for a park to be established to honor their son, Lieutenant John Gurney and his service to our country. The park was donated to the City of Hart by Theron and Helen Gurney to honor their son who was killed during the Spanish American War.

Website: <http://johngurneypark.com/>

- Months and hours of operation: April 15-October 15
- Entry fee: Starting at \$23.50 per night
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 873-2488

Hart Historic District

Tourism Readiness Level #: 3

Intrinsic values: Cultural, Historic



Visit Hart Historic District and discover numerous historical exhibits and buildings. Tour a restored 19th century church, one room school house, log cabin, flour mill, and Chief Cobmoosa's house. You can enjoy an animated doll display and the extensive and unique "Seymour Rider Indian Artifacts Collection" making it well worth your trip. Make plans to visit during Labor Day weekend for the Annual Heritage Day Celebration including live entertainment, kid's games, arts and crafts, and pig roast.

Website: <https://cityofhart.org/historic-district.php>

Months and hours of operation: 1pm-4pm Wednesday through Saturday in July and August (or by appointment).

- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: parking lot
- Restrooms? Yes, in museum
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? No
- On michigan.org? No
- Contact: for appointments Hart City Hall (231) 873-2448 or (231) 747-5916

Hart to Montague Trail State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 4 or 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



This linear State Park is a paved 22 mile long trail perfect for bikers, walkers, runners, and rollerbladers. A former railroad with trains passing through rural forested lands, now transformed into a scenic wonderland perfect for those who love the outdoors.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/details.aspx?id=452&type=SPRK#overview>

- Months and hours: open all year
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: 5 parking lots along the trail
- Restrooms? Yes, 5 restrooms along the trail
- Handicap accessible? Yes, asphalt trail surface
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 922-5280, (231) 922-5280 or 231-869-2051

Mears State Park

Tourism Readiness Level #: 5

Intrinsic values: Recreational



Charles Mears State Park is located in the village of Pentwater along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Paved campsite lots are surrounded by fine sand, with a swimming beach adjacent to the harbor pier. Fishing from piers adjacent to the park is also a popular year-round activity. During the winter, Pentwater Lake provides excellent ice fishing. There is an interpretive trail about one mile in length for hiking. It winds around to the tip of Old Baldy, a wooded and sand-blown dune that provides an excellent view of Lake Michigan's shoreline, and the town of Pentwater and the boat harbor.

Website: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=470&type=SPRK>

- Months and hours: open all year
- Entry fee: None
- Parking facilities: Yes
- Restrooms? Yes
- Handicap accessible? Yes
- Directions on website? Yes
- On michigan.org? Yes
- Contact: (231) 869-2051

Chapter 6: Public Outreach and Engagement

History of the Planning Process

The State Historic Preservation Office applied for and received a Preserve America Grant in 2007. This process which was completed in 2010 set out to inventory and document the potential attractions along the Pike. The resulting publication, Southwest Michigan Road Map: The West Michigan Pike is a comprehensive 500 plus page inventory of assets along the corridor.

The Southwest Michigan Road Map report not only inventoried physical assets along the Pike but also examined the historic context of these assets. These include Agriculture, Architecture, Art and Culture, Conservation, Ethnic Heritage, Natural Features, Recreation/Entertainment, and Transportation. In addition, the report provided a Cultural Heritage Assessment for each county along the route.

After the Preserve America grant was completed, the West Michigan Beachtowns Association took on the task of getting the route designated as a Pure Michigan Byway. Through the hard work of the committee, the Pike was granted status as the State of Michigan's newest Byway in 2016. A public unveiling was held in Muskegon on July 25, 2016 officially designating the route from the Indiana border to US-10 near Ludington as the Pure Michigan Byway-West Michigan Pike.

In early 2017, the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC), along with the Michigan Beachtowns Association prepared an RFP requesting bids for the creation of a Corridor management Plan for the newly designated Byway. In March of 2017, Michigan State University was selected as the firm to create this Corridor Management Plan.

In September of 2017, WMSRDC took over the task of completing the Corridor Management Plan. WMSRDC staff met with members of the Beachtowns Association on September 15, to present the procedures and process for completing the plan.

General Public Outreach

During the writing of the Corridor Management Plan, the public was given multiple opportunities to comment. In particular, a meeting was held in Hart, Michigan in Oceana County in November 9, 2017. A small article announcing the meeting was published in the Oceana Herald Journal and is included in the Appendices.

The second public meeting was held in Muskegon, Michigan at the offices of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) on Wednesday November 29, 2017. Notices were sent to transportation stakeholders including the various media outlets. In addition to attendees from the public, the meeting was attended by a reporter from the White Lake Beacon. An article about the Pike from this newspaper is also included in the Appendices.

Another meeting, cohosted by the South Haven and St. Joseph CVBs, was held in St. Joseph on January 18, 2018. This meeting was by far the best attended meeting. A number of the attendees expressed a desire to continue to be included as implementation of the Goals, Strategies, and Actions are implemented once the Management Plan has been completed.

The fourth public meeting was also one which was cohosted by two CVB's. The Grand Haven and Holland Area Convention and Visitors Bureaus hosted a meeting on April 18, 2018 at the Hemlock Crossing Nature Center in West Olive, MI in Ottawa County.

Chapter 7: Goals, Objectives, & Strategies

Byway Management Strategy

In this section of the Corridor Management plan, a byway management strategy or action plan is presented. This strategy includes goals, objectives, and strategies necessary for implementing the plan by preserving the intrinsic qualities of the corridor and while promoting tourism along the entire length of the West Michigan Pike. In addition, this section establishes list of tasks, lead and partnering agencies, potential funders, and a preliminary timeline for accomplishing chosen tasks. This portion of the Corridor Management Plan is a living document that should be updated regularly as new projects and programs are developed and existing ones are implemented.

Mission

The mission of the Corridor Management Plan is to enhance tourism along the length of the West Michigan Pike through the enhancement and protection of the historical, cultural, archaeological, natural, recreational, and scenic resources of the West Michigan Pike corridor.

Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives will define the overall intent and desired results of the actions that will be included in the corridor analysis. The results of the corridor analysis should be used to define the goals and objectives that maintain safety and enhance comfort of travelers; interpret significant resources; provide a strategy for public participation in the development and implementation of the CMP, including one or more public hearings; accommodate commerce and minimize negative impacts to the visitor experience; enhance existing development and accommodate new development in ways that preserve the intrinsic qualities of the corridor and position the byway for success in marketing and promoting tourism.

The following goals were chosen by the West Michigan Pike Committee of the Michigan Beachtowns Association and align with the input received from attendees of multiple public input sessions held throughout the Pike's corridor management area. The progress of these goals and objectives should be reviewed, and potentially updated, annually.

GOAL # 1- WAYFINDING

Goal: Direct and explain the historic context of the route for visitors of the West Michigan Pike (WMP) Corridor

Objective: Develop a wayfinding and information system that is consistent along the entire route of the Pike.

Management Measures:

- Support placement of consistent and visually appealing directional signage along the WMP corridor
- Develop a plan for placement of signage along the historic WMP.
- Develop a plan for experiential attractions and interactive activities to tell the story of the WMP.

GOAL # 2- PROMOTION AND MARKETING

Goal: Educate travelers about the archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic resources of the West Michigan Pike corridor.

Objective 1: Develop a wayfinding and information system that is consistent along the entire route of the Pike.

Management Measures:

- Enhance and maintain the WMP page on the Bechtowns website.
- Develop and distribute printed materials about the WMP.
- Develop a WMP social media plan for distribution across multiple social media platforms.
- Develop themed tours - guided and self-guided.

Objective 2: Advertising-Identify and target market to niche visitor groups for whom the WMP is likely to hold special appeal.

Management Measures:

- Cooperate with partners in advertising the WMP

- Advertise in print publications
- Advertise along the route of the Pike with businesses, displays, and signage.
- Advertise with television and radio utilizing pure Michigan

GOAL # 3 – PURE MICHIGAN BYWAY PROGRAM

Goal: Work toward improving the State’s Pure Michigan Byway Program

Objective: Partner with MDOT, Pure Michigan, and other Byway stakeholder’s across the State to enhance the Pure Michigan Byway program.

- Encourage MDOT to maintain and expand their Pure Michigan Byways program website.
- Work with Pure Michigan to promote the Pure Michigan Byway Program.

GOAL # 4 – ATTRACTIONS

Goal: Encourage improvement and expansion of activities and attractions along the WMP.

Objective: Work with a variety of agencies and business to enhance existing and identify potential new attractions along the route of the West Michigan Pike.

- Review list of historic and other locations compiled by MSHDA/SHPO study for potential new sites

GOAL # 5 – SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE

GOAL: Provide a safe, efficient, and enjoyable experience for visitors to the West Michigan Pike corridor.

Objective: Partner with appropriate transportation and law enforcement agencies to encourage safety and awareness along the length of the Pike.

Management Measures:

- Support proposals designed to maintain and improve roads and trails within the WMP corridor.

- Support and promote enforcement of traffic rules and regulations along the WMP.
- Encourage implementation of ADA accessible designs at all attractions along the WMP.

GOAL # 6 – STEWARDSHIP

GOAL: Protect and enhance the archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic resources of the West Michigan Pike corridor.

Objective 1: Support the enforcement of existing regulations designed to protect the archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic resources of the WMP.

Management Measures:

- Partner with archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational agencies to identify endangered resources along the length of the Pike.
- Identify and apply for sources of funding (state, federal, private, foundation and corporate) for protection and enhancement of the WMP.

Objective 2: Identify and apply for sources of funding (state, federal, private, foundation and corporate) for protection and enhancement of the WMP.

Management Measures:

- Identify and apply for sources of funding

GOAL # 7 – MERCHANDISING

GOAL: Develop a range of West Michigan Pike themed products for sale to help promote the route.

Objective 1: Offer West Michigan Pike themed products for sale at local businesses along the route as well as online.

Management Measures:

- Identify potential company(ies) to create logo themed products such as t-shirts, sweatshirts, bumper stickers, etc.
- Partner with local business along the Pike that will sell the themed products.
- Create an online gift shop section on the WMP/MBA website.

Chapter 8: Implementation

This section includes a listing of all agency, committee and individual responsibilities in the implementation of the CMP including a description of actions. Proposed implementation procedures including a priority rating, lead individual/entity, potential partners, potential funders, cost to Beachtowns, and potential timeline are proposed for each objective.

Priority #1 - Wayfinding

The top priority as identified by the Beachtowns Association, after including input from public listening sessions, is developing a wayfinding system. The first task for accomplishing this is the creation of a wayfinding plan. The wayfinding plan will work with the Beachtowns Association to come to an agreement on signage design, sign placement locations, estimated costs, and an implementation strategy, including identification of jurisdictions which will need to agree to sign placement.

Lead Individual: Consultant, WMSRDC

Potential Partners: Consultant, WMSRDC & other planning agencies, Road Commissions, cities, villages

Potential Funders: Beachtowns Association, MDOT, local foundations

Estimated Cost to Beachtowns Association: \$20,000

Timeline for Implementation: 2018 and 2019

Priority # 2- PROMOTION AND MARKETING

The primary task for this priority is to update the West Michigan Pike page on the Michigan Beachtowns website. The secondary task for Promotion and Marketing is to develop and distribute printed materials about the WMP. These first two tasks should be undertaken beginning in 2018/2019. Once these have been accomplished, projects for future years could include develop a West Michigan Pike social media plan for distribution across multiple social media platforms as well as developing themed tours along the Pike.

Lead Individual:

Potential Partners: Michigan Beachtowns Association

Potential Funders: Beachtowns Association, MDOT

Estimated Cost to Beachtowns Association: \$25,000

Timeline for Implementation: 2018 and 2019

Priority # 3 – PURE MICHIGAN BYWAY PROGRAM

While this priority is low cost, it was identified as being an important one with benefits which could impact all Pure Michigan Byways in the State of Michigan. The two primary actions identified include encouraging MDOT to update and expand their Pure Michigan Byways program website and to work with Pure Michigan to better promote the Pure Michigan Byway program.

Lead Individual: MBA, WMSRDC, Other planning regions

Potential Partners: MDOT, Travel Michigan

Potential Funders: MDOT

Estimated Cost to Beachtowns Association: Minimal

Timeline for Implementation: Ongoing

Priority # 4 – ATTRACTIONS

For this priority, individual CVB directors should work with existing businesses on ways to enhance and expand activities and attractions along the West Michigan Pike. This may include encouraging accessibility, increased parking, regular hours etc.

Lead Individual: WMSRDC, other planning agencies, MBA

Potential Partners: Local historical agencies, WMSRDC, other planning agencies, MBA, local property owners

Potential Funders: Beachtowns Association

Estimated Cost to Beachtowns Association: Minimal

Timeline for Implementation: Ongoing

Priority # 5 – SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE

Priority number five looks to provide a safe, efficient, and enjoyable experience for visitors to the West Michigan Pike corridor. To accomplish this it is suggested that committee members work with their Regional Planning Agencies or Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) to review safety data on a yearly basis. These agencies should also partner with appropriate transportation and law enforcement agencies to encourage safety and awareness along the length of the Pike, as well as encourage any engineering improvements which may increase safety along the route.

Lead Individual: Regional Planning Agencies, MPO's, local law enforcement

Potential Partners: Local/county transportation departments, MDOT, MDNR

Potential Funders: Beachtowns Association, MDOT, local foundations

Estimated Cost to Beachtowns Association: Minimal

Timeline for Implementation: Ongoing

Priority # 6 – STEWARDSHIP

Priority number six involves ensuring that the archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic resources of the West Michigan Pike corridor are protected and enhanced. Specific tasks include partnering with archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational agencies to identify endangered resources along the length of the Pike. A

secondary task would be to Identify and apply for sources of funding (state, federal, private, foundation and corporate) for protection and enhancement of resources along the West Michigan Pike.

Lead Individual: All Michigan Bechtowns members should monitor ongoing archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational issues regarding within their service areas.

Potential Partners: Archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational agencies to identify endangered resources along the length of the Pike.

Potential Funders: Bechtowns Association, MDOT, local foundations

Estimated Cost to Bechtowns Association: Minimal

Timeline for Implementation: Ongoing

Priority # 7 – MERCHANDISING

Developing merchandising was rated as a low priority by the Bechtowns Association. At this time, no action is scheduled for this item so priority can be given to other tasks. This item should continue to be revisited as higher priority tasks are accomplished.

Appendices

Appendix A: Articles and Reports

MUSKEGON NEWS

100-year-old route along Lake Michigan designated as historic byway

Updated on July 25, 2016 at 3:27 PM Posted on July 25, 2016 at 11:44 AM



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http://www.rlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2016/07/100-year-old_route_along_lake.html[4/2/2018 1:22:51 PM]

Gallery: Official designation of the West Michigan Pike as state's new Michigan Byway



By **Brandon Champion**, bchampion@mlive.com

MUSKEGON, MI - More than 100 years ago, Michigan's transportation pioneers developed U.S. 31 as a gateway to tourism on the West Michigan Lakeshore.

On Monday morning, today's tourism innovators officially designated that same route the West Michigan Pike, the state's newest Pure Michigan Byway.

Representatives from the Michigan Beachtowns Association, Michigan Department of Transportation and Travel Michigan all took part in the short ceremony held at Muskegon's Heritage Landing.

[U.S. 31, alias West Michigan Pike, history chronicled in new book](#)

The newly designated route stretches more than 184 miles along Michigan's west coast and includes St. Joseph, Benton Harbor South Haven, Saugatuck/Douglas, Holland, Grand Haven, Muskegon and Silver Lake.

"This route provides a scenic, diverse and interesting way to travel Michigan to create memories," said David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan. "That's the business we're in. So today we will remember those tourism pioneers that really got it all going and today's tourism innovators."

The West Michigan Pike was originally developed and constructed between 1911 and 1922 as one of the nation's first tourist roads.

What was originally meant to bring vacationers from Chicago eventually developed into a hot bed for the tourism industry complete with sand dunes, state parks, resorts and amusement parks.

The effort to officially designate the route began in 2006, but it's taken a lot of hard work and effort since then to make today's ceremony happen.

"This has not been an easy project," said Felicia Fairchild, president of Michigan Beachtowns Association.

"It took us longer than expected, but we persevered because we understand that byways lure

people off the interstates and into our communities. Byways allow travelers to connect with our assets, history and services. They give people a clearer picture of American life. The West Michigan Pike will give visitors a glimpse into our past."

The Pure Michigan Byway system was created under the name Michigan Heritage Route by the state legislature in 1993 to mark a scenic, recreational or historic route that is representative of Michigan's natural and cultural heritage.

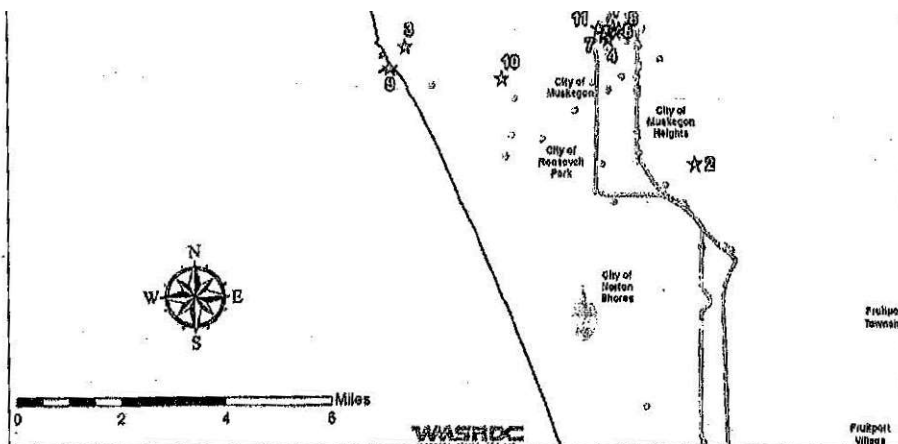
Since then five historic, seven recreational and five scenic byways have been designated by MDOT. The West Michigan Pike is designated as a historic route. It includes I-94, M-63, I-196/U.S. 31, I-196 BR, M-140, U.S. 31 BR and U.S. 10.

There are 46 listings on the National Register of Historic Places along the route and 116 on the State Register of Historic Places.

Muskegon County has two ships listed as National Historic Landmarks and 86 State Historic Markers can be found along the West Michigan Pike. Eight state parks are accessible from the route.

"It's about celebrating our history and celebrating these routes that helped make Michigan what it is today," said Kirk T. Steudle, director of the Michigan Department of Transportation.

"Roads and transportation are about two things: moving people and moving goods. They're doing it for economic development and they're doing it for quality of life. That hasn't changed in 100 years."



West Michigan Pike Muskegon County



Muskegon Points of Interest

- 1 - Frauenthal (Michigan) Theater
- 2 - Getty 4 Drive-In Theater
- 3 - Great Lakes Naval Memorial Museum & USS Silversides
- 4 - Hackley Hume Historic Site
- 5 - Hackley Park Civil War Statues
- 6 - Michigan's Adventure
- 7 - Muskegon Heritage Museum
- 8 - Muskegon Museum of Art
- 9 - Pere Marquette Park and Lighthouse
- 10 - SS Milwaukee Clipper Ship
- 11 - USS LST 393 Veterans Museum
- 12 - White River Light Station and Museum

Map Features

- Township
- City or Village
- West Michigan Pike
- Historical Pike Route
- State Trunkline
- ★ Beachtown Point of Interest
- * Other Point of Interest

By Jared Leatzow

Beacon Staff Writer

MUSKEGON – The route along the west shoreline of Michigan brought Chicagoans to tourist destinations in the early 20th Century.

Now, the state wants to promote that route to today's tourists.

The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) held an open house for public comment on the planned Pure Michigan Byway called the West Michigan Pike.

The open house was at WMSRDC's offices on Wednesday, Nov. 29.

The pike will run from St. Joseph to the Silver Lake Sand Dunes along the state's trunkline system: I-94, I-196/US 31, US 31 and BR 31.

A similar open house was held three weeks earlier in Oceana County.

Program manager Joel Fitzpatrick, WM-SRDC, gave a short presentation during the event.

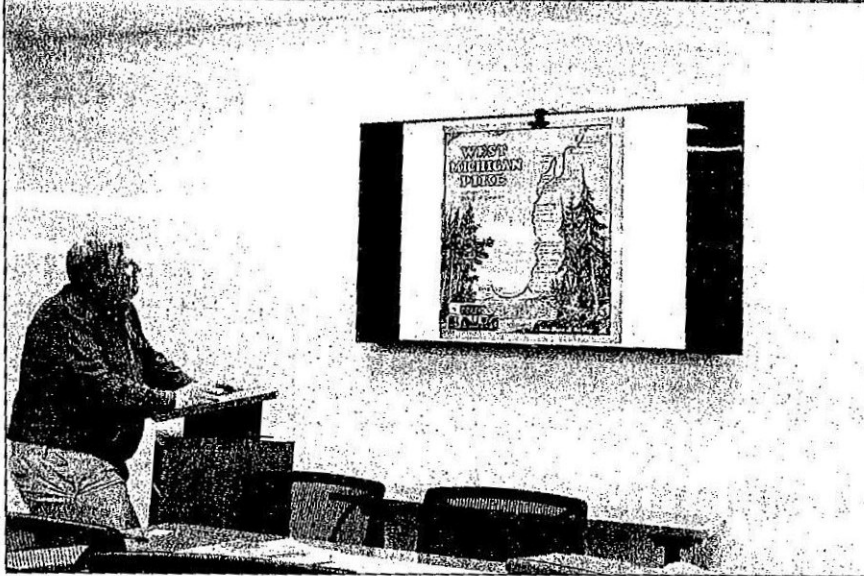
The original West Michigan Pike was developed between 1911 and 1922 as one of the nation's first tourist roads. The purpose was to bring vacationers from Chicago to West Michigan.

"Turn of the 20th century the roads were pretty much impassable. They were just dirt and sand. The Lakeshore Association was founded to improve the route," said Fitzpatrick.

"Really what we are looking for today with the new designation is a tourism hub. It (West Michigan Pike) was meant to bring the tourists up from Chicago, and we hope that the designation now will continue that tradition."

The meeting Wednesday dealt mainly with

See Pike, page 3a



JARED LEATZOW/ Beacon

Joel Fitzpatrick, program manager for WMSRDC, gave a video presentation on the West Michigan Pike at an open house last Wednesday.

Pike ...Continued from page 1a

Muskegon County portion of the route. The route is meant to help direct people to various points of interests that are just outside of it.

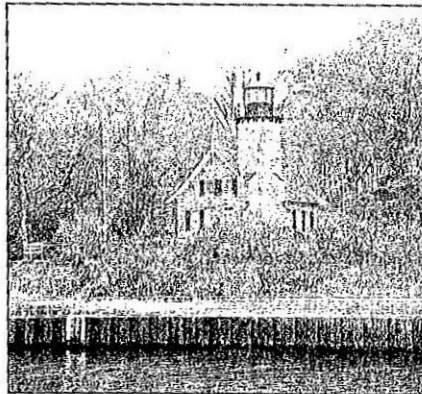
Several points of interest have been identified, but there were 12 that were singled out as being of a particular significance. Those 12 are: Frauenthal Theater, Getty 4 Drive-In Theater, Great Lakes Naval Memorial Museum & USS Silversides, Hackley Hume Historic Site, Hackley Park Civil War Statues, Michigan's Adventure, Muskegon Heritage Museum, Muskegon Museum of Art, Pere Marquette Park and Lighthouse, SS Milwaukee Clipper Ship, USS LST 393 Veterans Museum and White River Light Station and Museum.

In Oceana County there were six significant points of interest. Those points of interest are: Little Sable Point Lighthouse, The Hart Historic District, Silver Lake Sand Dunes, Mac Woods Dune Rides, Hart/ Montague Bike Trail and John Gurney Park.

Right now WMSRDC is in the process of writing a corridor management plan (CMP) for the West Michigan Pike. A traditional CMP would ask for changes to the roadways be made.

"This is not that type of corridor management plan. It is more marketing based. We are asking the communities along the byway to get together, in this instance it is the convention and visitors bureaus (CVB) are taking this task on, said Fitzpatrick.

"The corridor management plan should identify it's (West Michigan Pike) intrinsic qualities. So sce-



Beacon file photo

The White River Light Station and Museum is one of the 12 main points of interest along the West Michigan Pike in Muskegon County.

nic, historic recreational and things like that."

Fitzpatrick said that CMP should look at visitor needs and expectations. WMSRDC's goal is to catalog all the points of interest. It is then up to the seven CVB's along the Pike to decide what they want to do.

This could include signage, marketing materials and other ways to promote the route,

West Michigan Pike open house scheduled in Hart Nov. 9

Nov 1, 2017



The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) recently contracted with the West Michigan Beachtowns Association to complete a Corridor Management Plan for the Pure Michigan Byway - West Michigan Pike and is seeking public input.

A local open-house-style meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hart Community Center, 407 State St., in Hart.

The historic West Michigan Pike comprised a variety of different roadways along Michigan's West Coast, including US-12, the Red Arrow Highway, South Shore Drive, A2, M-120, Grand Haven Road, Whitehall Road, US-31, and main thoroughfares and side streets through the cities along the original route. In 2016, the modern day route through these communities was designated as a Pure Michigan Byway - West Michigan Pike.

For more information, contact Joel Fitzpatrick, Program Manager, WMSRDC at 231-722-7878 ext. 16 or via e-mail at jfitzpatrick@wmsrdc.org.



Appendix B: Tables-Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

WAYFINDING

GOAL: Direct and explain the historic context of the route for visitors to the West Michigan Pike corridor.						
Objective: Develop a wayfinding and information system that is consistent along the entire route of the Pike.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost*	Timing
Support placement of consistent and visually appealing directional signage along the WMP designated corridor.	High	MDOT	MBA, MDOT	MDOT	Low	2018
Develop a plan for placement of signage along the historic WMP route.	High	MBA	Consultant, WMSRDC & other planning agencies, Road Commissions, cities, villages	MBA, MDOT	Medium	2018-2019
Develop a plan for experiential attractions or displays and interactive activities to tell the story of the WMP.	High	MBA	Consultant, WMSRDC & other planning agencies	MBA, MDOT	High	2018-2019

PROMOTION AND MARKETING

GOAL: Educate travelers about the historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic resources of the West Michigan Pike corridor.						
Objective 1: Update, develop, and promote print, web, and social media programs for the WMP.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost	Timing
Enhance and maintain the WMP page on the Beachtowns website.	High	MBA	MBA	MBA	High	Ongoing
Develop and distribute printed materials about the WMP.	Medium	MBA	MBA	MBA	Medium	Ongoing
Develop a WMP social media plan for distribution across multiple social media platforms.	Medium	MBA	MBA	MBA	Medium	2019-2020
Develop themed tours – guided and self-guided.	Medium	MBA	MBA	MBA	Low	2019-2020
Objective2: Advertising - Identify and target market to niche visitor groups for whom the WMP is likely to hold special appeal.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost	Timing
Cooperate with partners in advertising the WMP	High	MBA	MBA	MBA	Medium	Ongoing
Advertise in print publications	Medium	MBA	MBA	MBA	Medium	Ongoing
Advertise along the route of the Pike with businesses, displays, and signage.	Medium	MBA	MBA	MBA	Medium	Ongoing
Advertise with television and radio utilizing pure Michigan	Medium	MBA	MBA	MBA	Medium	Ongoing

PURE MICHIGAN BYWAY PROGRAM

GOAL: Work toward improving the State's Pure Michigan Byway program						
Objective: Partner with MDOT, Pure Michigan, and other Byways stakeholders across the State to enhance the Pure Michigan Byway program.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost*	Timing
Encourage MDOT to maintain and expand their Pure Michigan Byways program website.	High	MBA, WMSRDC, Other planning regions	MDOT	MDOT	No-low	Ongoing
Work with Pure Michigan to promote the Pure Michigan Byway Program.	High	MBA, WMSRDC, Other planning regions	MDOT	MDOT	No-low	Ongoing

ATTRACTIONS

GOAL:						
Objective 1: Work with a variety of agencies and business to enhance existing and identify potential new attractions along the route of the West Michigan Pike.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost*	Timing
Review list of historic and other locations compiled by MSHDA/SHPO study for potential new sites	Low	WMSRDC, other planning agencies, MBA	Local historical agencies, WMSRDC, other planning agencies, MBA, local property owners	MDOT, Local historical agencies, local property owners	No-low	Ongoing

SAFETY & MAINTENANCE

GOAL: Provide a safe, efficient, and enjoyable experience for visitors to the West Michigan Pike corridor.						
Objective: Partner with appropriate transportation and law enforcement agencies to encourage safety and awareness along the length of the Pike.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost*	Timing
Support proposals designed to maintain and improve roads and trails within the WMP corridor.	High	Local/county transportation departments, MDOT, MDNR	Local/county transportation departments, MDOT, MDNR	Local/county transportation departments, MDOT, MDNR	No-low	Ongoing
Support and promote enforcement of traffic rules and regulations along the WMP.	High	Local law enforcement	Local law enforcement	Local law enforcement	No-low	Ongoing
Encourage implementation of ADA accessible designs at all attractions along the WMP.	High	Individual attractions and sites	Individual attractions and sites	Individual attractions and sites	No-low	Ongoing

STEWARDSHIP

GOAL: Protect and enhance the archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic resources of the West Michigan Pike corridor.						
Objective 1: Support the enforcement of existing regulations designed to protect the archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational and scenic resources of the WMP.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost*	Timing
Partner with archaeological, historical, cultural, natural, recreational agencies to identify endangered resources along the length of the Pike.	Medium	Resource and site owners and managers	MDNR, MDOT, conservancies, assoc., etc.	MDNR, MDOT, county and local units of government	No-low	Ongoing
Identify and apply for sources of funding (state, federal, private, foundation and corporate) for protection and enhancement of the WMP.	Medium	Resource and site owners and managers	MDNR, MDOT, conservancies, associations, etc.	MDNR, MDOT, county and local units of government	No-low	Ongoing
Objective 2: Identify and apply for sources of funding (state, federal, private, foundation and corporate) for protection and enhancement of the WMP.						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost*	Timing
Identify and apply for sources of funding	Medium	Resource and site owners and managers	MDNR, MDOT, conservancies, non-profits, associations, etc.	MDNR, MDOT, county and local units of government	No-low	Ongoing

MERCHANDISING

Goal: Develop a range of West Michigan Pike themed products for sale to help promote the route.						
Objective: Offer West Michigan Pike themed products for sale at local businesses along the route as well as online						
Strategies	Priority	Lead	Partners	Funders	Cost*	Timing
Identify potential company(ies) to create logo themed products such as t-shirts, sweatshirts, bumper stickers, etc.	Low	MBA	MBA, Chambers of Commerce, Local Business owners	MBA, Chambers of Commerce, Local Business owners	?	2020 (?)
Partner with local business along the Pike that will sell the themed products	Low	MBA	MBA, Chambers of Commerce, Local Business owners	MBA, Chambers of Commerce, Local Business owners	?	2020 (?)
Create an online gift shop section on the WMP/MBA website.	Low	MBA	MBA	MBA	?	2020 (?)