

Appendix I: Critical Paths

Critical paths are those non-motorized paths or trails that the Township acknowledges as important to maintain for year round use because of their role in access to local destinations. These designations may change as uses change within the Township, but for now the only critical path designated for year round non-motorized use is the Township non-motorized path as shown on the map in Appendix G.

This paved path extends along the west side of the US 41/M-28 highway corridor from the pedestrian tunnel near Fairbanks St south to the intersection of US 41 with M-28 and Cherry Creek Road, and then continues west on Cherry Creek Road to the intersection of Ortman Road. This path connects the school with the Village of Harvey, and makes walking possible between the grocery store (transit stop) and various neighborhoods. It allows pedestrians to mostly bypass the snowmobile route that lies along the alternate business route of the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, crossing over at major intersections that are equipped with pedestrian features to access key businesses on the east side of the highway.

The Township will have to invest in better snow removal equipment, such as a tractor with blower, to remove snow from this path. An alternate course of action is to maintain a packed trail that is accessible for pedestrians, snowbikes, or sleds, and to encourage businesses to provide racks to secure equipment.