



Michigan Air Line Trail • M-5 Metro Trail

## Michigan Air Line Trail

Michigan's newest rails-to-trails conversion, the final mile of the Michigan Air Line Trail was completed through downtown Wixom in 2022.

The new 7-mile trail provides an important connection between the Huron Valley Trail, West Bloomfield Trail and M-5 Metro Trail. It also filled a critical gap in The Great Lake-To-Lake Trail Route #1, which will eventually travel across Michigan from South Haven to Port Huron.

One of Michigan's first major railroads, the original Michigan Air Line Railway was built in the 1870s with service running all the way from Port Huron to Niles, Michigan. Named after this historic railway, the first 6-miles of the Michigan Air Line Trail was paved with asphalt and completed in 2019. The trail was thoughtfully designed with signalized crossings, or "HAWK" signals, providing safe passage across busy streets, plus a massive



The newest section of the trail, between Wixom and Old Plank Road, passes through a long tunnel of trees.



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bridge over highway M-5 and several new trailheads. The trail is also close to a brewery and several eateries, coffee shops, and stores in downtown Wixom and Walled Lake.

## M-5 Metro Trail

The 3.5-mile M-5 Metro Trail is an important "connector trail" that (if you're feeling ambitious) will lead you all the way to the Lake Erie shoreline via the I-275 Metro Trail and Downriver Linked Greenways East-West Trail. It connects with the Michigan Air Line Trail at the west end of the M-5 Bridge and wraps around a series of ponds and wetlands as it heads south to 13-mile Road. From there, cross 13-mile road and follow the wide bike path west, then south on Meadowbrook Road. When you cross the bridge over I-96, the pathway connects with the north end of the I-275 Metro Trail.

[www.draftingtablebeer.com](http://www.draftingtablebeer.com) 49438 PONTIAC TRAIL, WIXOM, MI 48393 (INTERSECTION OF PONTIAC TRAIL AND OLD WIXOM ROAD)

1 Location on map.