



LD-22

Connecting neighborhoods and downtown with the waterfront

The city of Marquette, Michigan (20,000), has developed a master plan calling for non-motorized connections between all the city's neighborhoods, including its downtown, and the shores of Lake Superior. The city has already acquired 13 miles of waterfront property and has installed a walking/bicycle path along all 13 miles. The path leads to a 500-acre nature preserve within city limits. The city plans to install kayak lockers and other features to help visitors leave their boats and follow signs to reach downtown on foot. Paths from each neighborhood are being identified and signs have been installed to help pedestrians and cyclists find their way downtown or to the waterfront. The city is currently "daylighting" two rivers that had been buried during the industrial age. It will install bridges over these rivers and connect these bridges to its trail system. The city hopes that the signs and paths will encourage customers and residents to spend more time downtown.

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