



**CHALLENGE:** Install recreational trail section in narrow space limitations with steep slope considerations and loose sand.

**SOLUTION:** Utilize trench box safety for retaining wall construction in narrow construction zone with loose sand side slope.

**OWNER:** MDOT

**CONTRACT AMOUNT:** \$2,043,142

**DESIGN ENGINEER:** Scott Prost, P.E. Prein & Newhoff

**ENGINEER CONTACT:** (616) 946-2394

**LOCATION:** Traverse City

**DATE STARTED:** May 2020

**DATE COMPLETED:** July 2021

**PARTNERS:** Action Traffic Maintenance, Bella Concrete Construction, Diane Dukes, Inc., G&J Site Solutions, Give 'Em A Brake Safety, PK Contracting, Inc.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Aggregate Base: 6,254 sq. yd.

Retaining Wall: 1,050 feet

Concrete Modular Block Retaining Wall: 11,178 sq. ft.

Shared Use Path Grading: 5,090 feet

HMA Shared Use Path: 1,010 tons

Vinyl-Coated Chain Link Fence: 2,514 feet

30+ Year Vision

Annual TART Trail Visitors: 400,000

**The vision** for Boardman Lake Trail is a shared-use pathway that circles the Boardman Lake in Traverse City, showcasing the region's natural, cultural, and recreational resources while helping to support healthier and stronger communities and economies. Boardman Lake Trail is owned by the City of Traverse City in partnership with Grand Traverse County and Garfield Township. Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation (TART) Trails, Inc. works with the City, County, and

Township to support the development and maintenance of the trail.

In 2020, Team Elmer's was awarded the contract to begin construction on the next phase of the Boardman Lake Trail loop. The new mile-long segment follows the railroad right-of-way to the parking lot on the north side of Northwestern Michigan College (NMC).

Work for this section of the trail included clearing of the trail area,

# TEAM ELMER'S PROJECT PROFILE | Boardman Lake Trail - 2020

sub-grading, gravel installation, construction of a 1,050 lineal-foot modular block retaining wall, landscape restoration, installation of benches and bike racks, and paving - at times in a narrow construction zone. Team Elmer's utilized a trench box for safe construction of 1,050 lineal feet of Redi-rock retaining wall through a steep side slope section consisting of loose sand.

Originally estimated to be completed in a few months, the supply chain was affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic. Construction crews wrapped up asphalt and landscaping of this portion of the trail on Friday, July 2, 2021, and a ribbon cutting and a slow roll/walk down the trail was held on July 22 to celebrate the occasion.

"It'll get people right to the NMC campus, so we're excited about that and about having a better connection to Cass (Road from the trail).

We're excited about the mobility it provides in the short term, as well as the transportation options it opens up in the long term."

— Julie Clark, Executive Director of TART Trails,  
as quoted in the Traverse City Ticker



3600 Rennie School Rd., Traverse City, MI 49685 • (231) 943-3443



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