

TRANSPORTATION

Goal: Provide a multi-modal system for moving people, goods, and services in a safe, efficient and convenient manner.

Water Transportation

- A) *Ferry Access to Washington Island from the mainland is provided year round on a daily basis by a privately owned and operated car/passenger ferry. This includes buses, construction vehicles, supply vehicles, mail delivery, and garbage trucks.*
- B) *A privately owned and operated passenger only ferry operates daily between Gills Rock and Detroit Harbor, Memorial Day through Labor Day.*
- C) *A 3rd ferry provides passenger service between Jackson Harbor and Rock Island between Memorial Day through Labor Day. The season ferries primarily serve visitors to the Island (day trippers) and is owned and operated by the WIFL.*

1. Transient Boat Dockage

Currently the Island has a municipal marina on the north end at Jackson Harbor. Three private marinas exist on the south side of the Island (Outpost, Shipyard Marins and the former Kaps Marina). Maintained public ramps with clearly marked signage was a priority indicated in the survey response.

- 2. **Mooring Fields** – Municipal mooring fields at Detroit and Jackson Harbors would financially benefit the town and serve a need for the boating public.
- 3. **Town owned easements to the Lake** - Town owned easements to the lake should be clearly marked and maintained. Use of these easements link paddling routes with recreational assets.
- 4. **Safety Boats** – A water rescue boat with trained and certified staff needs to be available during boating/fishing season.

ROADS

- 1. Washington Island is made up of county, town and private roads, maintained with county, town and private funds.
- 2. Public parking is available for a fee monthly, semi-annually, yearly at Jackson Harbor and behind the visitor center at Jackson Harbor. Two community vans (one wheelchair accessible) are available to transport visitors on and off the Island.

3. Washington Island roads are shared with pedestrians, mopeds, bikes, e-bikes, motorcycles, UTV's, ATV's, cars, trucks a busses, and semis. Safety is a paramount concern.
 - a. Recommended safety improvements include bike lanes along the county roads – Lobdell Point Rd to Main Rd., Main Rd to Jackson Harbor Rd., South Shore Dr., Lakeview Rd and Airport Rd.
 - b. Paving the Richter Forest walking trail to Main Rd would enhance public safety and alleviate the potential for serious pedestrian, and bike accidents on the public road.

TRAILS

1. Develop hiking and biking trails on Mountain Park property.
2. Establish a map connection paddling, hiking, biking and walking trails on the Island.

AIRPORT

The Washington Island airport is owned and maintained by the Town of Washington. The two grass runways provide service for privately owned small planes and helicopters. The airport is critical infrastructure providing for flights for life and coast guard usage. Response to the survey strongly reject paving and increasing the airport usage beyond current usage. The maintenance building would benefit from expansion and meeting area for pilot lounge/work.

Privately owned hangers need to meet town criteria of maintaining an active aircraft. These are not to be used for personal storage units.