



2025

TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



Butterworth Trail

Michigan



Butterworth Trail

Michigan

The Butterworth Trail connects several neighborhoods in Grand Rapids on both sides of the Grand River. The majority of the paved



crosses a converted railroad trestle over the Grand River, offering dramatic vistas of the Grand Rapids skyline in the distance and water below. The trail follows the railroad grade on bridges over active tracks and Chestnut Street to its southern endpoint on Oxford Street, just a block away from Roberto Clemente Park.

The Butterworth Trail connects several neighborhoods in Grand Rapids on both sides of the Grand River. The majority of the paved trail loops through a large swath of land formerly home to the Butterworth Landfill and now reclaimed as open space. The city continues to improve the area, with proposals ranging from the reopening of a dormant boat ramp to the installation of a large-scale solar array.

At the large site's northwestern edge, the Butterworth Trail connects to the extensive [Kent Trails](#) system, providing access to the John Ball Park and Zoo, Millennium Park and the communities of Wyoming, Grandville, Jenison and Byron Center.

Heading south from the loop route, the Butterworth Trail



Butterworth Trail

Michigan

States: Michigan

Counties: Kent

Length: 3.5miles

Trail end points: Kent Trails just south of the John Ball Park & Zoo to Oxford St. SW and Norwich Ave. SW

Trail surfaces: Asphalt, Concrete

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Walking, Wheelchair Accessible, Cross Country Skiing

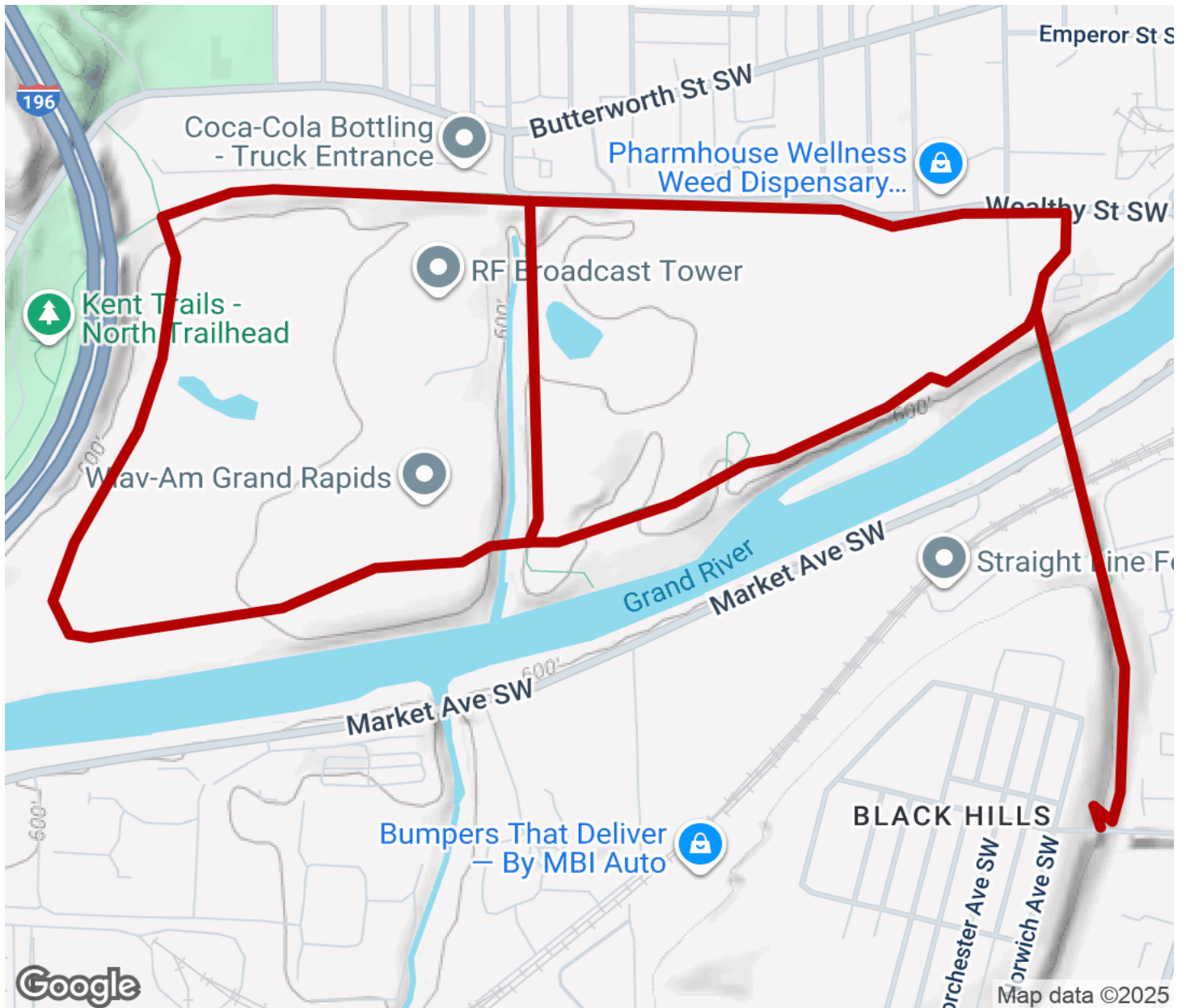
Parking & Trail Access

Parking for the Butterworth Trail can be found at the Kent Trails North Trailhead at Butterworth Street and O'Brien Road. Follow the Kent Trails system east under Interstate 196 to reach the Butterworth Trail.



Butterworth Trail

Michigan



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com