



# Irondequoit Lakeside Multi-Use Trail



Pedestrian and Bicycle  
Information Center

## Problem

The sidewalk network in the Town of Irondequoit and the City of Rochester was not continuous and no sidewalk existed through a nearby park requiring pedestrians to walk on the shoulders of existing roadways.

## Background

The Town of Irondequoit is located on the shore of Lake Ontario just north of Rochester, New York. Irondequoit rightfully means “where the land and waters meet,” since it is bordered on three sides by the waters of Lake Ontario, the Genesee River, and the Irondequoit Bay. This unique geographical feature creates a scenic place for residents to enjoy the outdoors.

## Solution

Monroe County and the Town of Irondequoit worked together to sponsor and complete the Irondequoit Lakeside Trail (ILT). This 4.7 mile paved trail connects three existing recreational activity centers and crosses over a wetland. In order to preserve the ecological value of the wetlands, a priority was placed on creating a path that minimized any adverse impacts. An elevated pedestrian boardwalk was used because it has the least overall impact on the wetland and allows the trail users to learn about the functions of wetlands without negatively impacting the area. The trail also includes signs and rest stops along the way to better accommodate users. The creation of the ILT was truly a community project with representatives from the Town of Irondequoit assisting in the construction of the trail.



A boardwalk on the Irondequoit Lakeside Trail that crosses over wetlands.

## Results

The construction of the trail has increased recreational use of the area and has created a safer environment for pedestrians and bicyclists. It has also increased the area’s residents’ pride in their community and has the added benefits of providing new transportation alternatives as well as improving people’s health. The trail also minimizes congestion at tourist sites thus better accommodating visitors to the area.

## Costs

The trail cost \$2.5 million to create, with \$1.2 million coming from federal funds, \$705,000 in county funds and \$460,000 in cash and in-kind services from the town of Irondequoit.

## Contact

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