



Downriver Linked Greenways
20600 Eureka Rd., Suite 250
Taylor, MI 48180

February 5, 2026

Save Sibley Prairie Coalition
Michigan Land Conservancy
10325 Cherry Hill Rd.
Superior Township, MI 48198

Dear Save Sibley Prairie Coalition,

On behalf of Downriver Linked Greenways, I am writing to express our strong support for your efforts to protect the 440-acre Fritz Enterprises Inc. tract at Sibley Road Prairie. This property is an incredibly important natural resource for Brownstown Township, Wayne County, and the Downriver region.

Sibley Road Prairie is the largest remaining example of lakeplain prairie in Michigan. While this type of landscape once covered much of southeast Michigan, very little remains today. The Fritz tract is the most intact and significant portion of this prairie, and protecting it is essential to maintaining what is left of this rare ecosystem.

Lakeplain prairies support a wide range of plant and insect species, many of which are now rare or declining. They also provide important benefits such as water storage, water filtration, and improved air quality. As wetland systems, they play a role in flood mitigation and climate resilience, while also offering opportunities for people to experience a unique natural landscape close to home.

Sibley Road Prairie is also an important site for migratory birds, serving as one of the most significant inland stopover areas in Wayne County. Its size and quality make it a refuge for wildlife and a source of native species that can support conservation and restoration efforts throughout the region.

Downriver Linked Greenways has a direct interest in this project as it includes plans to expand the regional bike trail along the property. Our organization focuses on connecting Downriver communities through trails that provide safe transportation and access to outdoor spaces. The opportunity to connect residents to a rare prairie landscape like Sibley Road Prairie would be a high priority for our organization. Protecting this land now ensures that future trail connections can be planned thoughtfully, in a way that respects and preserves the natural character of the site.

We fully support the Save Sibley Prairie Coalition's efforts to permanently protect the Fritz tract and appreciate the collaborative work being done to make this possible. Thank you for the opportunity to support this important project.

Sincerely,

Eric Antolak
Trail Program Manager
Downriver Linked Greenways