

Letter of Support

From: Sidewalk Detroit

Friday, Jul 1, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Sidewalk Detroit, I am writing to express our strong support for the Save Sibley Prairie Coalition and its efforts to permanently protect the 440-acre Sibley Prairie.

Sidewalk Detroit is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing public life, social infrastructure, environmental stewardship, and community connection through arts, culture, and collaborative design. Through our work in parks, neighborhoods, and public spaces across Southeast Michigan, we have witnessed firsthand the critical role that healthy ecosystems play in supporting both environmental resilience and community well-being.

Sibley Prairie represents one of the most significant natural landscapes remaining in our region. As the largest and highest-quality remnant of lakeplain prairie in Michigan, it preserves a globally rare ecosystem that once stretched across hundreds of thousands of acres throughout Southeast Michigan. Today, less than one percent of this landscape remains in restorable condition, making the protection of Sibley Prairie both urgent and essential.

At Sidewalk Detroit, much of our work centers on reconnecting people to the natural systems that sustain them. Through environmental art installations, ecological restoration projects, educational programming, and stewardship initiatives in parks such as Eliza Howell Park, we have seen how meaningful access to nature fosters environmental awareness, strengthens community relationships, and inspires collective action. Places like Sibley Prairie serve as living classrooms where residents can learn about the region's ecological history while building a deeper sense of stewardship for its future.

The preservation of Sibley Prairie is also an investment in environmental equity. Residents across Wayne County deserve access to healthy, biodiverse, and climate-resilient landscapes. Protecting this rare prairie ensures that future generations will have opportunities to experience, learn from, and connect with one of Michigan's most extraordinary natural treasures.

We commend the leadership, vision, and dedication of the Save Sibley Prairie Coalition and fully support its efforts to protect and steward this irreplaceable landscape. The conservation of Sibley Prairie will safeguard critical habitat, strengthen regional climate resilience, preserve an important part of Michigan's natural heritage, and provide lasting benefits for communities throughout Southeast Michigan.

Thank you for your commitment to protecting this remarkable place.

Sincerely,

Augusta Morrison

Program Director, Sidewalk Detroit

Signature: 