

Additional information on the MT trail within the Cradle of Humankind within the major road reserve of the D 540 and D 374 roads.

- 1) The proposed trail will be located within the road reserve of existing provincial roads. These road reserves have seen substantial construction and modification during the construction phase of the provincial roads and it is unlikely that fossil remains or any other artifact may be present within these road reserves – it however needs to be investigated.
- 2) That the proposed trail will only be 1 m wide with a few areas where the trail may be wider (maximum 2 m) for short distances ( 10 m) to allow overtaking or rest stops with benches along the trail.
- 3) Only approximately 7-8 km of the trail is located within the dolomite belt but still within existing road reserves
- 4) The proposed trail construction is really not substantial and generally will require soil disturbance to a maximum depth of 15 cm and a width of about 2 m in certain places just to clear the area of topsoil (organic soils and vegetation). Once the trail route has been cleared, the mineral in situ layer will be compacted to provide a sustainable trail tread (1 m wide) that will be the primary riding surface. In a few instances, soils such as Laterite (clay soil) used for binding or crusher fines may be used to assist in providing a sustainable trail should in situ soil conditions not be suitable. This will be the exception rather than the rule and concrete is highly unlikely to be used – preference for interlocking paving where required at culverts or wet areas.
- 5) Trail route signage will require limited excavation to provide for good solid construction in line with standard practice used during road signage construction – limited concrete work may be required.
- 6) The corridor design (initial trail route) and detail trail design process will preferably move around trail obstacles such as rock etc as the trail is a beginner trail and hence needs to be mostly devoid of obstacles etc. A preliminary corridor investigation has not identified any major dolomite rock outcropping or sharp rock faces along the route sections located within the dolomite zone.