

**MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
January 30, 2024**

Member Present

Quentin L. Messer, Jr.

Members Joined Remotely

Britany L. Affolter-Caine
Susan Corbin (Joined remotely at 10:05 a.m.)
Wesley Eklund
Rachael Eubanks
Dimitrius Hutcherson
Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich)
Dan Meyering
Leon Richardson
Charles P. Rothstein
Susan Tellier
Cindy Warner

Members Absent

Randy Thelen

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mr. Messer called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The meeting was held in person in the Lake Michigan Conference Room at the MEDC headquarters building in Lansing with optional participation remotely.

Mr. Messer introduced Natalie Davenport, MSF Board Liaison, who conducted the attendance roll call.

Susan Corbin joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m. after the roll call vote.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Natalie Davenport explained the process for members of the public to participate. Public comment was had.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Davenport stated that communications were shared with the MSF Board on Friday, January 26th.

MSF Subcommittee Reports

Dimitrius Hutcherson, Chair of the MSF Finance and Investment Subcommittee, did not have any updates to report.

Cindy Warner, Chair of the MSF Policy and Planning Subcommittee, did not have any updates to report.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 2024-025, Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Quentin L. Messer Jr. asked if there were any questions from Board members regarding items under the Consent Agenda. There being none, Dimitrius Hutcherson motioned for the approval of the following:

- a. Approval of January 23, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Dimitrius Hutcherson motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-025 to approve the consent agenda; Quentin L. Messer, Jr. seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 12 ayes; 0 nays; 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

V. DEVELOP ATTRACTIVE PLACES

- a. **Resolution 2024-026 Strategic Site Readiness Program Grant Awards.** Terri Fitzpatrick, Chief Real Estate and Global Attraction Officer, supported by Paul O’Connell, Vice President of Real Estate Development, and Nicole Whitehead, Director of Business Operations, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve eighteen (18) Strategic Site Readiness Program grants totaling \$87,546,962 for various sites around the State of Michigan. After discussion, Quentin L. Messer, Jr., motioned for the approval of Resolution 2024-026 for the Strategic Site Readiness Program grant awards. Wesley Eklund seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 12 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Britany L. Affolter-Caine, Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None.

VI. ATTRACT, RETAIN, AND GROW BUSINESS

- a. **Copperwood, Inc. Strategic Site Readiness Program Performance-Based Grant for Highland Copper Company, Inc.** Erik Wilford, Strategic Project Advisor, supported by Vicki Schwab, Managing Director of Regional Prosperity, Barry O’ Shea of Highland Copper Company, Inc., and Marty Fittante of InvestUP, provided the Board with information regarding this action item. This action involves the consideration of a resolution to approve a

Strategic Site Readiness Program performance-based grant for Highland Copper Company, Inc. Following discussion, Quentin L. Messer, Jr. motioned to refer the project to the Michigan Strategic Fund Finance and Investment Subcommittee for expedited review. Charles P. Rothstein seconded the motion. **The motion carried: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 recused, 1 abstained.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Susan Corbin, Wesley Eklund, Rachael Eubanks, Dimitrius Hutcherson, Michael B. Kapp (in lieu of Director Wieferich), Quentin L. Messer, Jr., Dan Meyering, Leon Richardson, Charles P. Rothstein, Susan Tellier, Cindy Warner; Nays: None; Recused: None; Abstained: Britany L. Affolter-Caine.

Quentin L. Messer, Jr. adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
ACTING DIRECTOR

January 3, 2023

Ms. Rhonda Bishop
Board Relations Liaison
Michigan Strategic Fund Office
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Ms. Bishop:

I hereby confirm and ratify my designation of Michael B. Kapp, Administrator, Michigan Department of Transportation, as the person authorized and empowered to act in my stead for Michigan Strategic Fund meetings that I am unable to attend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bradley C. Wieferich".

Bradley C. Wieferich, P.E.
Acting Director

cc: M. Kapp
Executive File

January 17, 2024

MSF Fund Manager
MEDC
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Fund Manager,

This is to advise that I am recusing myself from voting and excuse myself during the discussion of the following items on the Michigan Strategic Fund Special Board Meeting Agenda on January 30, 2024.

— Strategic Site Readiness Program(SSRP): Program Grant Awards

The reason for my recusal is I have a potential conflict with these items due to a potential MSF grant to RPI related to this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Thelen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Randy Thelen

Thank you miss Davenport and Board Members of Michigan's Strategic Fund.

You are charged with what is a difficult job having been chosen because of your remarkable Accomplishments throughout your career. Many can credit their success to the team of people they surround themselves with.

I have no doubt That there is a shortlist of individuals that you to would credit your success. These are the people I refer to as 10s, they are the few who show up early and stay late that carry the conviction and initiative to perform the needed tasks that lead to our success.

These are extraordinary individuals who are hard to come by, and for some are unfortunately out of reach. The success of their business and the quality of their services rely directly on the staff that are ever so increasingly difficult to find.

I have spent some time now developing relationships and acquiring the information needed to best position the leaders that work within the community that I live.

The incredible opportunity That this community has to offer, is because of our brightest & gifted talent who can be found working together as a collective to overcome the challenges of today and foster the environment needed to create the solutions for tomorrow.

I have found that my time is best spent assisting those who are working to improve the medical infrastructure that we rely on here in Michigan. The incentive to retain skilled labor in our state is of growing concern to me.

However, I have been blessed to find myself working with the teams that solve problems exist today in public health.

The work we perform is with some of the most resourceful and thrifty of anybody I've met in this industry. It is evident to me that their success lies with-in the leadership as the people that they surround themselves with work tirelessly to accomplish more with less as the demand ever increases for their services and attention.

The research and recommended solutions within my colleague's proposal are what many consider to be the "Best Next Steps" for our community. Your careful consideration and attention on this matter will no doubt save lives.

The future that we will face together is full of challenges and opportunity and the human resources available in our communities hold the solutions to the success that we will inevitably Inherit. I ask that you consider investing in our research and strategies.

I would like to Thank You for your time, your service, and your continued support.

October 26, 2023

RE: Community Support for Copperwood Project

The Copperwood Project team has reached out to local community stakeholders to demonstrate the level of support the project has in the area and has been receiving letters and adopted resolutions over the past few weeks.

At the time of writing, the following documents are in hand and can be provided as required. More are expected in the days to come.

Resolutions of support

1. Bergland Township
2. City of Bessemer
3. City of Ironwood
4. Erwin Township
5. Gogebic County Road Commission
6. Gogebic County Board of Commissioners
7. Gogebic County Forestry and Parks
8. Ironwood Township
9. Ontonagon County Road Commission
10. Ontonagon Township
11. Village of Ontonagon
12. Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region Commission (WUPPDR)

Letters of support

1. Aspirus Ironwood Hospital
2. Aspirus Ontonagon Hospital
3. Coleman Engineering
4. Gogebic Community College
5. Keweenaw Land Association
6. Silvercreek Excavating
7. U.P. Michigan Works

Videos of support

1. Village of Ontonagon
2. Gogebic Community College
3. Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region Commission (WUPPDR)

If you require copies or would like more information, we will be happy to provide what is needed.

Sincerely,

The Copperwood Project Team

BERGLAND TOWNSHIP

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT OF HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At its scheduled meeting on October 19, 2023, at Bergland Township Hall, the Bergland Township Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution:

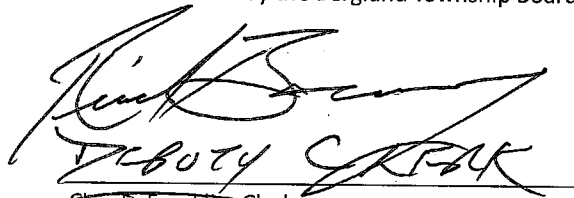
WHEREAS, Bergland Township supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS, Bergland Township acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS, Bergland Township recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Bergland Township fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution enacted by the Bergland Township Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held October 19, 2023.



Christy Franklin, Clerk
Bergland Township

RESOLUTION 2021-27

**SUPPORT FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Bessemer, duly held on October 9th, 2023, duly held in the Council Chambers in City Hall, the following Resolution was offered by Kryshak, supported by Tirpik.

PRESENT: Zak, Kryshak, Nelson, Tirpik, Coleman

ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the City of Bessemer supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the City of Bessemer acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the City of Bessemer recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Bessemer fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member Kryshak, second offered by Board Member Tirpik.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

AYES: Tirpik, Coleman, Zak, Kryshak, Nelson

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Mandy Lake
City Clerk
City of Bessemer

I hereby certify the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Bessemer, County of Gogebic, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held September 11, 2023, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act



Mandy Lake
City Clerk
City of Bessemer

RESOLUTION #023-034

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At a Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Ironwood held on the 23rd day of October 2023, in the Commission Chambers of the Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan, the following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Semo and supported by Commissioner Andresen.

WHEREAS the City of Ironwood supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the City of Ironwood acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the City of Ironwood recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Ironwood fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

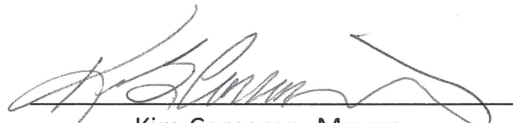
Upon roll call vote, the following votes were recorded:

AYES: Commissioners Semo, Andresen, Korpela, Mildren, and Mayor Corcoran.

NAYES: None

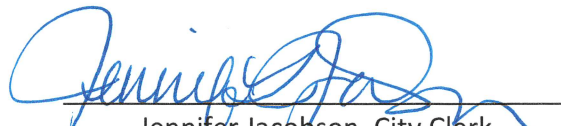
ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED



Kim Corcoran, Mayor

I, Jennifer Jacobson, the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Ironwood, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the City Commission of the City of Ironwood at its Regular Meeting on October 23, 2023.



Jennifer Jacobson, City Clerk

Resolution Number: 10 11 2023

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

At the Regular Board Meeting of the Township Board of Erwin Township, duly held on October 11, 2023, duly held in the Erwin Township Hall, the following Resolution was offered by Trustee Jim Anderson, supported by Treasurer Roberta Nuce.

PRESENT: James Anderson, Larry Grimsby, William Hellen, Roberta Nuce, and Betty Perkis.

ABSENT: none

WHEREAS the Township of Erwin supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Erwin acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Erwin recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Township of Erwin fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member James Anderson second offered by Board Member Roberta Nuce.]

Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: Anderson, Grimsby, Hellen, Nuce, Perkis

NAYS: none

Respectfully submitted by ,

Betty Perkis

Erwin Township Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At the Regular Meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the Gogebic County Road Commission, duly held on October 23, 2023, duly held in the board room, the following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Matonich, supported by Commissioner Estola.

PRESENT: D'Antonio, Skinner, Matonich, Zorich, Estola

ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Road Commission supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Road Commission acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Road Commission recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Gogebic County Road Commission fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member John Matonich second offered by Board Member James Estola.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: Estola, Matonich, Zorich, Skinner & D'Antonio

NAYS: None

This is to certify that the above Resolution was passed by the Board of County Road Commissioners at a regular meeting held on Monday, October 23, 2023.


Patricia J. Hagstrom, Secretary to the Board



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Gogebic County

200 N. Moore St.

Bessemer, Michigan 49911

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN RESOLUTION 2023-16

At the Regular Meeting of the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners, duly held on October 25, 2023, duly held in the following Resolution was offered;

WHEREAS the Gogebic County supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS Gogebic County acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS Gogebic County recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Gogebic County fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Mr. Bonovetz offered by Board Member Mr. Orlich.

The vote being Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 0

Resolution was adopted Oct 25 2023.

JAMES A. LORENSON
Chairman

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7
Dan Siirila	Tom Laabs	Jim Byrns	Jim Lorensen	Joe Bonovetz	Bob Orlich	George Peterson III

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) SS

COUNTY OF GOGEBIC)

I, Ramona L. Collins, Clerk of the County of Gogebic, and the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting on October 25, 2023.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the County of Gogebic, on this 25th day of October, 2023 at Bessemer, Michigan.



Ramona L. Collins



District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7
Dan Siirila	Tom Laabs	Jim Byrns	Jim Lorenson	Joe Bonovetz	Bob Orlich	George Peterson III



**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At the Regular Meeting of the Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission of Gogebic County, duly held on October 19, 2023, duly held in the conference room at the Natural Resources Center at 500 North Moore Street, Bessemer Michigan, the following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Siirila, supported by Commissioner Charles .

PRESENT: Charles, Matonich, Orlich, Peterson, Siirila

ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the [Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

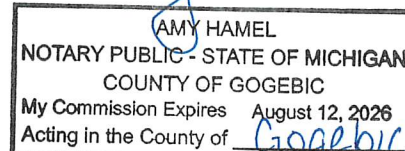
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the [Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

YEAS: Charles, Matonich, Orlich Peterson, Siirila

NAYS: None.

I, Amy Hamel, Administrative Secretary to the Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission, Gogebic County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted by the Gogebic County Forestry & Parks Commission at their regular meeting held October 19, 2023.



Charter Township of Ironwood

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Resolution # 2023-0013

At the Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Ironwood, duly held on October 23, 2023, duly held in the board room, of Ironwood Township. The following Resolution was adopted in support of the Copperwood Mine Project.

PRESENT: Aili-Angus, Justinak, Simmons, Lyons, Graser, Segalin and Kangas
ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Ironwood, supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Ironwood, acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Charter Township of Ironwood, recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Charter Township of Ironwood, fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by, ___Lyons___ Supported by ___Aili-Angus___.
Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: All

NAYS: None

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned duly qualified Clerk of Charter Township of Ironwood, Gogebic County, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Ironwood, County of Gogebic, Michigan at a regular meeting held on October 23, 2023 at 5:00 pm, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

I further certify that the following members were present at said meeting:



Mary Segalin, Clerk

10-23-2023

Date

WALTER LANNET
Bruce Crossing, MI

DONALD BUSSIERE, CHAIRMAN
Ontonagon, MI

KEN TRUSCOTT
Greenland, MI

JACQUELINE JOHNS, BUSINESS MGR.
Ontonagon, MI

RYAN DEHUT, MANAGER
Ontonagon, MI

ONTONAGON BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

415 SPAR STREET
ONTONAGON, MICHIGAN 49953
PH. (906)884-2332 FAX (906)884-4719
ontoroads.org

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

Commissioner Bussiere offered the following resolution of support for the Copperwood Mine Project by Highland Copper Company in Gogebic County, Michigan.

WHEREAS the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

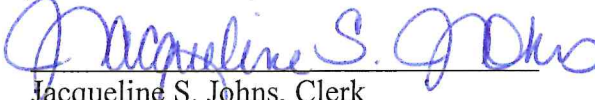
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Ontonagon Board of County Road Commissioners fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

Moved by Commissioner Truscott, seconded by Commissioner Lannet that this resolution of support is adopted.

AYES: Bussiere, Lannet, Truscott

NAYS: None

I, Jacqueline S. Johns, do hereby certify that I am duly appointed and qualified Clerk of the Ontonagon County Board of Road Commissioners and do further certify that the foregoing is a complete and accurate copy of the resolution adopted by the said Ontonagon County Board of Road Commissioners at their regular meeting held October 18, 2023.


Jacqueline S. Johns, Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At the regular Meeting of the Ontonagon Township Board, of the Township of Ontonagon, duly held on October 17, 2023, duly held in the board room, at the Memorial Building, 311 N Steel St, Ontonagon, MI, the following Resolution was offered by Maki, supported by Saari.

PRESENT: Supervisor Steve Store, Clerk Pam Chabot, Treasurer Penny Saari, Trustees Chuck Maki & Brenda Hamm

ABSENT:

WHEREAS the Township of Ontonagon supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Ontonagon acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Ontonagon recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Township of Ontonagon fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member Chuck Maki second offered by Board Member Penny Saari.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: III Supervisor Store, Treasurer Saari, Clerk Chabot, Trustees Chuck Maki & Brenda Hamm

NAYS: Ø

I, Pam Chabot, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Ontonagon Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the township board of said township at the regular meeting of said board held on Oct 17, 2023 at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

Pam Chabot
Clerk

RESOLUTION 2023-16
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

At the Regular Meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Ontonagon, duly held on October 9th, 2023, duly held in the offices at 315 Quartz Street, Ontonagon, Michigan, the following Resolution was offered by Trustee Chastan supported by Trustee Marks.

PRESENT: Chastan, Marks, Rebholz, Seid, Waldrop, Hopper & Coey

ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the Village of Ontonagon supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Village of Ontonagon acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Village of Ontonagon recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Village of Ontonagon fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

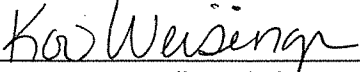
THIS RESOLUTION is hereby approved by roll call vote:

YEAS: Chastan, Marks, Rebholz, Seid & Coey

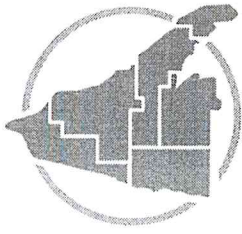
NAYS: Waldrop & Hopper

And, adopted by a 2/3rds vote of the Village Council of the Village of Ontonagon, this 9th day of October, 2023.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Village Council of the Village of Ontonagon, County of Ontonagon, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on Monday, October 9, 2023, that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267 of Public Acts of Michigan 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.



Kori Weisinger, Village Clerk



Western U.P.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGION

400 Quincy St, 8th Floor, Hancock, Michigan 49930
906-482-7205 Fax: 906-482-9032 e-mail: info@wuppdr.org

RESOLUTION 2023-03

Support for the Copperwood Mine of Highland Copper Company

WHEREAS, the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region Commission (hereinafter referred to as "WUPPDR") supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, WUPPDR acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region; and

WHEREAS, WUPPDR recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy; and

WHEREAS, the 2022-2026 Western Upper Peninsula Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, which WUPPDR maintains in its capacity as an economic development district organization of the United States Economic Development Administration, includes an objective to support and seek opportunities for the value-added use of commodities originating within the region; and

WHEREAS, WUPPDR's mission is to foster stable and diversified economies in the Western Upper Peninsula.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region Commission strongly supports advancement and development of the Copperwood Mine Project.

Moved: Bob Niossainen Supported: William Menge

Aye: 5; Nay: 0 Motion carries.

I certify the above motion is a true copy of action taken by the Executive Committee of the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region Commission at its regular meeting on October 16, 2023.

William Menge
William Menge, Secretary

October 9, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear M. Fittante,

The decline of our area's economy with the closure of White Pine Mine 30 years ago, Ontonagon Paper mill a few years later and more recently the closure of the prison in Marenisco, has left a significant gap in the ability of the residents to secure family sustaining jobs. This is evidenced by the decline of the population as well as the increase in the average age of residents. The Copperwood Mine Project will provide a wind of change and significant improvement to the economy of the area.

We are providing this letter to express our support for the Copperwood Mine Project. As the primary healthcare provider in the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan we support the development of a safe, modern and environmentally and socially responsible mine in our region. We understand the need for copper in this age of transition to a lower carbon economy and hope that Michigan, through its support of the Copperwood Mine Project, can become a leader in this area by locally extracting copper, a metal critical to the manufacturing of technologies supporting this transition.

In conclusion, we support Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project that will be transformative to our local and regional economy and accelerate our return to a thriving area.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 906-932-6215 to discuss this matter or to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Chermide". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small mark above the 'i' in "Chermide".

Paula Chermide, CAO
Aspirus Ironwood Hospital and Clinics, Inc.



ASPIRUS™

Passion for excellence.
Compassion for people.

ONTONAGON HOSPITAL

601 S. 7th St., Ontonagon, MI 49953
P 906.884.8000 | F 906.884.4384 | aspirus.org

October 11, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear M. Fittante,

The decline of our area's economy with the closure of White Pine Mine 30 years ago, Ontonagon Paper mill a few years later, and more recently the closure of the prison in Marenisco, has left a significant gap in the ability of the residents to secure family sustaining jobs. This is evidenced by the decline of the population as well as the increase in the average age of residents. The Copperwood Mine Project will provide a wind of change and significant improvement to the economy of the area.

We are providing this letter to express our support for the Copperwood Mine Project. As an active business in the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan we support the development of a safe, modern and environmentally and socially responsible mine in our region. We understand the need for copper in this age of transition to a lower carbon economy and hope that Michigan, through its support of the Copperwood Mine Project, can become a leader in this area by locally extracting copper, a metal critical to the manufacturing of technologies supporting this transition.

In conclusion, we support Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project that will be transformative to our local and regional economy and accelerate our return to a thriving area.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 906-884-8111 to discuss this matter or to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Rae Kaare
Chief Administrative Officer
Aspirus Ontonagon Hospital



COLEMAN ENGINEERING COMPANY

CIVIL ENGINEERING • GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING • SURVEYING

200 EAST AYER STREET • IRONWOOD, MI 49938 • PHONE: 906-932-5048

October 10, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

Re: Highland Copper Company
Copperwood Mine Project

Mr. Fittante:

Coleman Engineering Company has been a proud employer of professional and technical residents of the western Upper Peninsula for over 50 years. The decline of our area's economy with the closure of White Pine Mine 30 years ago, Ontonagon Paper mill a few years later and more recently the closure of the prison in Marenisco, has left a significant gap in the ability of the residents to secure family sustaining jobs. This is evidenced by the decline of the population, as well as the increase in the average age of residents. The Copperwood Mine Project will provide a wind of change and significant improvement to the economy of the area.

We are providing this letter to express our support for the Copperwood Mine Project. As an active full services consulting firm in the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan we support the development of a safe, modern and environmentally and socially responsible mine in our region. We understand the need for copper in this age of transition to a lower carbon economy and hope that Michigan, through its support of the Copperwood Mine Project, can become a leader in this area by locally extracting copper, a metal critical to the manufacturing of technologies supporting this transition.

In conclusion, we support Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project which will be transformative to our local and regional economy and accelerate our return to a thriving area.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (906)774-3440 to discuss this matter or to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Kevin W. Trevillian, P.E, Principal
Coleman Engineering Company



E4946 Jackson Road
Ironwood, Michigan 49938

(906) 932-4231 or (800) 682-5910
gogebic.edu

October 06, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear M. Fittante,

The decline of our area's economy with the closure of White Pine Mine 30 years ago, Ontonagon Paper mill a few years later and more recently the closure of the prison in Marenisco, has left a significant gap in the ability of the residents to secure family sustaining jobs. This is evidenced by the decline of the population as well as the increase in the average age of residents. The Copperwood Mine Project will provide a wind of change and significant improvement to the economy of the area.

We are providing this letter to express our support for the Copperwood Mine Project. As an institution of higher education in the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan we support the development of a safe, modern and environmentally and socially responsible mine in our region. We understand the need for copper in this age of transition to a lower carbon economy and hope that Michigan, through its support of the Copperwood Mine Project, can become a leader in this area by locally extracting copper, a metal critical to the manufacturing of technologies supporting this transition.

In conclusion, we support Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project that will be transformative to our local and regional economy and accelerate our return to a thriving area.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at jennifers@gogebic.edu or 906-307-1210, to discuss this matter or to answer any questions you may have.

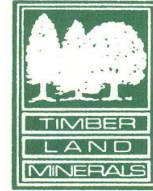
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Sabourin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jennifer Sabourin, PhD
Interim President/
Vice President of Student Services and Athletics
Gogebic Community College

gogebic
BOLD

1801 E. Cloverland Dr.
P.O. Box 188
Ironwood, MI 49938
Phone: (906) 932-3410
Fax: (906) 932-5823
Email: investors@Keweenaw.com



KEWEENAW
LAND ASSOCIATION, LIMITED

& IRONWOOD MINES CORPORATION
a subsidiary of Keweenaw Land Association, Limited

October 19, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear M. Fittante,

My name is Tim Lynott, President and CEO of Keweenaw Land Association, Ltd. a Michigan corporation based in Ironwood, Michigan. We have operated here for over 150 years as a mineral and timber management company and currently manage about 429,000 acres of minerals across upper Michigan and at the Copperwood project. Not only do we work here in Michigan, we live here and we are from here, we have always been here.

A Pure Michigan and clean energy future starts with responsible and sustainable mining. Mining of those minerals can be done in Michigan as demonstrated by the Eagle mine.

For too long, the western end of the UP has seen a decline in population and economic growth, since the White Pine mine closed in the 90's followed by the Ontonagon paper mill in the 2000's and then the Ojibway correctional facility in the 2010's. Our greatest export has been our youth and our families that can no longer afford to live here. This is an opportunity to change all of that!

I call it a Friday night fish fry and an F-150 in the driveway. Back when the mines were in operation, life was good. People remember those times and want to see them return. Family sustaining jobs, filling our schools and our stores, and once again contributing to a Michigan economy.

The opportunity is not only for families but also for Michigan. During the pandemic we heard about supply chain challenges. This opportunity before us can help eliminate that challenge by mining and refining the necessary minerals to supply the manufacturers of products that are made in Michigan. Can you imagine an F-150 rolling off the assembly line in Detroit utilizing minerals and copper mined from Upper Michigan?

It is not only the supply chain but also the value chain. Michigan is home to the Big 3 auto manufacturers that will be consuming ever more amounts of these critical and strategic metals.

The value proposition for Michigan is capturing the value across the product life cycle including mining severance taxes, local, and state corporate taxes as well as income taxes for the numerous jobs this investment will support.

Pure Michigan is not about choosing recreation or the environment over industry. It is about pursuing both in a responsible and sustainable manner.

They can coexist in Michigan, and in Upper Michigan they have always coexisted. Some of the most beautiful areas we have are former mines, across the UP, that have recovered from the sins of the past long before environmental standards existed. In the 21st century, new standards exist. And Michigan has some of the best which will guarantee we protect all of our precious resources.

An investment of this magnitude will keep the people here in Upper Michigan that want to stay here, it will bring back those people that want to return here, and it will ensure that Pure Michigan will carry on for those people that visit and recreate here!

Mined in Michigan, Made in Michigan!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy Lynott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Lynott
President and CEO
Keweenaw Land Association, Ltd.

October 20, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

I have been involved with the Copperwood Project since 2008 and have seen the site progress from just a couple of road projects involving graveling and fixing culverts to property development and improvements. My wife and I have been strong supporters of the mine project throughout the years. We have attended public hearings to support the many different permits necessary for a responsibly safe and permitted mine, spoke with legislators and community leaders, and plain old put boots on the ground to perform work on the site to make this project a reality for our area. This past year has been the most impressive and exciting year with the progress that has been made.

Gogebic and Ontonagon County's economy has lost many large employers in the area such as Connor Forest Industries, Norco Window, Steiger's Lumber Mill, Ojibway Correctional Facility, White Pine Mine, just to name a few. Many of those employees have since retired or moved out of the area. Our younger population has dropped significantly because of this and many wish they could come home, but just can't find a good job to come home to. Our population consists mainly of the Baby Boomer generation since there are very few "good" job opportunities available for the younger working force. Because of this, our schools are especially hurting because families must move out of the area to seek better employment. Relocation of families results in smaller class sizes, less State funding for the schools, and school administrations making hard decisions on what classes to keep and which ones to eliminate. School curriculums are at a bare minimum compared to what they were even 20 years ago. The trade's have been lost and many extracurricular activities must be combined with neighboring schools just to continue with those programs. Local and County Governments struggle to fix roads and maintain buildings and infrastructure because of the continuously decreasing population. Without a promise of a major employer in the area, we all know what will happen to our communities: no schools, terrible roads, no hospitals for important healthcare, delapidated homes and buildings, and closed small businesses.

A mine project at Copperwood would provide those "good" jobs for people to move back home to and ensure that our communities don't turn into ghost towns. It holds a promise of good paying jobs for both me and my wife, our friends and families, and also to our children, who we hope are able to at least have a choice if they want to stay here or move elsewhere. Currently, there is no option for them but to move. Building a mine would provide many different job opportunities to the whole region and stimulate our economy, make our schools strong again, provide a good tax base for our local and county governments, and bring good and hardworking people back to our area. We fully support the Copperwood Mine Project!

Sincerely,
Chris and Mandy Lake
Silver Creek Excavating and Trucking, LLC
Wakefield Township, Michigan

October 18, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Mr. Fittante,

The decline of our area's economy with the closure of White Pine Mine 30 years ago, Ontonagon Paper mill a few years later, and more recently the closure of the prison in Marenisco, has left a significant gap in the ability of the residents to secure family-sustaining jobs. This is evidenced by the population decline and the increase in the average age of residents. The Copperwood Mine Project will provide a wind of change and significant improvement to the economy of the area.

We are providing this letter to express our support for the Copperwood Mine Project. As an active workforce development entity that serves the entire Upper Peninsula of Michigan, we support the development of a safe, modern, and environmentally and socially responsible mine in our region. We understand the need for copper in this age of transition to a lower carbon economy and hope that Michigan, through its support of the Copperwood Mine Project, can become a leader in this area by locally extracting copper, a metal critical to the manufacturing of technologies supporting this transition.

In conclusion, we support Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project that will be transformative to our local and regional economy and accelerate our return to a thriving area.

Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss this matter or to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debb Brunell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Debb" and last name "Brunell" clearly legible.

Debb Brunell, CEO
Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!
906-482-6916
dbrunell@upmichiganworks.org

A Proud Partner of the  American Job Center Network

The logo for the American Job Center Network features the words "American" in blue, "Job" in red, and "Center" in blue, with a small red star above the letter "i" in "Job".

Equal Opportunity Employer Michigan Relay Center 711 - Auxiliary Aids & Services Available to Individuals with Disabilities
- Affiliated with the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, State of Michigan - Supported by the State of Michigan
- A Proud Partner of the American Job Center Network - **1-800-285-WORK (9675)**

This program is funded with federal dollars.



October 23, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Mr. Fittante,

The decline of our area's economy with the closure of White Pine Mine 30 years ago, Ontonagon Paper mill a few years later, and more recently, the closure of the prison in Marenisco has left a significant gap in the ability of the residents to secure family-sustaining jobs. This is evidenced by the decline in the population as well as the increase in the average age of residents. The Copperwood Mine Project will provide a wind of change and significant improvement to the economy of the area.

We are providing this letter to express our support for the Copperwood Mine Project. As an educational service agency that works with families and schools in the Western Upper Peninsula of Michigan, we support the development of a safe, modern, environmentally and socially responsible mine in our region. We understand the need for copper in this age of transition to a lower carbon economy and hope that Michigan, through its support of the Copperwood Mine Project, can become a leader in this area by locally extracting copper, a metal critical to the manufacturing of technologies supporting this transition.

In conclusion, we support Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project, which will be transformative to our local and regional economy and accelerate our return to a thriving area. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 906-575-3438 to discuss this matter or answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Alan R. Tulppo, Ed.S.
Superintendent
Gogebic-Ontonagon Intermediate School District



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1401 Presque Isle Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855-5301
906-227-2242 | FAX: 906-227-2249
NMUPres@nmu.edu | nmu.edu/president

November 22, 2023

InvestUP
Attn: Marty Fittante, Chief Executive Officer
101 West Washington Street, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Mr. Fittante,

Please accept this letter of support for the Copperwood Project in Gogebic County. Northern Michigan University is a rural-serving comprehensive institution based in Marquette in Michigan's Upper Peninsula with approximately 7,000 students and over 170 degree programs. Northern values the important responsibility of partnership in support of our region's prosperity. Through collaboration with industry and economic development partners like InvestUP, we are preparing students for success in high-wage, in-demand careers that are also enabling new economic development throughout the region. Consistent with its commitment to access and lifelong learning, Northern also takes great pride in supporting non-degree programs that support skill development and workforce training in partnership with Upper Peninsula employers.

We are encouraged by new opportunities presented for sustainable mineral production in the western Upper Peninsula. This region has faced severe challenges over the past three decades with the closure of the White Pine Mine, the former Smurfit Stone paper mill in Ontonagon, and former state Ojibwa Correctional Facility in Marenisco, resulting in record unemployment, population decline, and shrinking K-12 enrollment.

The Copperwood Project is projected to support 380 full-time operational jobs and 273 indirect jobs annually through 2037, in addition to 300 construction jobs for the project development. The projected \$77.3 million in annual labor income and \$13.7 million in state and local taxes from this project will have a profound impact in this community and throughout our region, while also supporting responsible production of minerals that are necessary to fuel our growing mobility economy in Michigan.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this monumental investment in the Upper Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Brock Tessman, Ph.D.
President



MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 14, 2023

Marty Fittante
Chief Executive Officer
InvestUP
101 W. Washington, Suite 13
Marquette, MI 49855

RE: Highland Copper Company – Copperwood Mine Project

Dear Mr. Fittante,

As Michigan's university chartered to serve the industrial needs of the state and originally named the Michigan Mining School, we provide this letter of support for the Copperwood Mine Project. We understand the need for copper in this age of transition to a lower carbon economy and hope that Michigan, through its support of the Copperwood Mine Project, can become a leader in this area by locally extracting copper, a metal critical to the manufacturing of technologies supporting this transition.

The Copperwood Mine Project aligns with our commitment to fostering responsible industrial practices that prioritize safety, environmental stewardship, and community well-being. We believe that the development of this mine will not only contribute to meeting the increasing demand for copper but will also serve as a model for sustainable mining practices.

Furthermore, we recognize the economic benefits that the Copperwood Mine Project can bring to our region, creating job opportunities and fostering economic growth. We anticipate that this program can contribute to the prosperity of the Western Upper Peninsula and strengthen Michigan's position as a hub for responsible resource extraction.

We endorse the Copperwood Mine Project and express our enthusiasm for the positive contributions it can make to our region and the state of Michigan as a whole.

Sincerely,

Rick Koubek
President

CARP LAKE TOWNSHIP
OF ONTONAGON COUNTY
PO Box 397
White Pine, MI 49971
Phone (906) 885-5884
Fax (906) 885-5236



**RESOLUTION 2023-11 - CARP LAKE TOWNSHIP
SUPPORT FOR COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT
HIGHLAND COPPER CO IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MI**

WHEREAS the Carp Lake Township Board supports the development of safe, modern, and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Carp Lake Township Board acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Carp Lake Township Board recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Carp Lake Township Board fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

At the Regular Board Meeting of the Township of Carp Lake, Ontonagon County, MI, duly held on October 18, 2023, at the Carp Lake Town Hall, 17 Main Street, White Pine, MI, the forgoing Resolution 2023-11 was offered by:

Board member Gustafson and supported by board member Reath.

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted: Monville, Weiner, Gustafson, Reath Ayes
Colclasure

0 Nays 0 Absent

The supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

Nancy J. Reath, Clerk

I, Nancy Reath, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Carp Lake Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Township Board of said Township at the regular meeting of said Board held on October 18, 2023, at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said members as hereinbefore set forth; that said Resolution 2023-11 was ordered to take immediate effect.

Nancy J. Reath, Clerk

Carp Lake Township is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At a Regular Meeting of the Township Board of Wakefield Township, duly held on November 7, 2023, duly held in the board room at Wakefield Township Hall, 414 N. County Rd. 519, the following Resolution was offered by Robert Drier supported by Michael Heikkila

PRESENT: Jennife Ahonen, Denise Laessig, Robert Drier, Michael Heikkila

ABSENT: mandy Lake

WHEREAS the Township of Wakefield supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Wakefield acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Wakefield recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Township of Wakefield fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member Robert Drier second offered by Board Member Michael Heikkila.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: Michael Heikkila, Denise Laessig, Robert Drier, Jennife Ahonen

NAYS: none

The Wakefield Township Clerk declared the Resolution adopted.

Jennife Ahonen

Jennife Ahonen, Wakefield Township Clerk

Date: 11/7/23



**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

At the Regular Meeting of the Marenisco Township Board, duly held on November 20, 2023, the following Resolution was offered by Clerk Kenney supported by Treasurer Leonard.

PRESENT: Supervisor Mahler, Clerk Kenney, Treasurer Leonard, Trustee Hagen, Trustee Dunbar
ABSENT: None

WHEREAS the Township of Marenisco supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Marenisco acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Township of Marenisco recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Township of Marenisco fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Board Member Kenney, second offered by Board Member Leonard.

Upon roll call vote the following voted

YEAS: Supervisor Mahler, Clerk Kenney, Treasurer Leonard, Trustee Hagen, Trustee Dunbar

NAYS: None

This Resolution declared adopted on Monday, November 20, 2023 at a regular meeting of the Marenisco Township Board.



Donna Kenney, Clerk

Iron County Board of Commissioners
RESOLUTION
In Support of the Copperwood Mine Project
by Highland Copper Company

WHEREAS, the Iron County Board of Commissioners supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS, the Iron County Board of Commissioners acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Iron County Board of Commissioners recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Iron County Board of Commissioners fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

Commissioner JACOB CONERY offered the resolution that was supported by

Commissioner FAN BRUETTE and the resolution were adopted by the following vote:


Yeas: PERETTO, STAFFORD, STAUBER, CONERY, BRUETTE


Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

I hereby certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at a meeting of the Board of the County Commissioners of the County of Iron on November 14, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF IRON**

By  _____
Mark Stauber
It's Chair

By  _____
Julie Kezerle
It's Clerk



**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY
IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

#23-22

WHEREAS the Houghton County Board of Commissioners supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Houghton County Board of Commissioners acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Houghton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Houghton County Board of Commissioners fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

Moved by Commissioner: Janssen

Supported by Commissioner: Britz

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Janssen, Britz, Tikkanen, Anderson

No: None

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

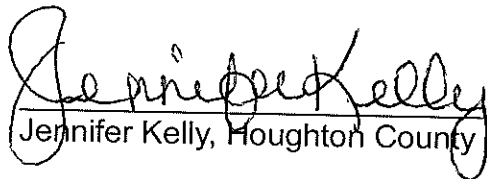


Tom Tikkanen, Chairman
Houghton County Board of Commission

11/14/23

Date

I, Jennifer Kelly, County Clerk of Houghton County, do hereby certify and set my seal to the above Resolution as adopted November 14, 2023, at the Houghton County Courthouse, 401 East Houghton Avenue, Houghton, MI 49931.



Jennifer Kelly, Houghton County Clerk

RESOLUTION
SUPPORT FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT OF
HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY

WHEREAS the BARAGA COUNTY supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the BARAGA COUNTY acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

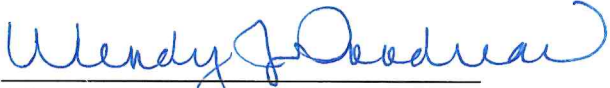
WHEREAS the BARAGA COUNTY recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the BARAGA COUNTY fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS
COUNTY OF BARAGA)

I, WENDY J. GOODREAU, Clerk of the Baraga County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of Baraga, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board on November 13, 2023.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Circuit Court at L'Anse, Michigan this 15th day of November 2023.



Wendy J. Goodreau, Clerk

Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners

Courthouse, 725 Greenland Road

Ontonagon, MI 49953

Telephone (906) 884-4255

Fax (906) 884-6796

Chairperson: Carl Nykanen
Vice Chairperson: John Cane

Commissioners: Richard Bourdeau
Robert Nousiainen
Ron Store

RESOLUTION 2023-17

SUPPORT FOR THE COPPERWOOD MINE PROJECT BY HIGHLAND COPPER COMPANY IN GOGEBIC COUNTY, MICHIGAN

WHEREAS the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners supports the development of safe, modern and responsible mining as planned for Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project located in Ironwood and Wakefield Townships of Gogebic County, Michigan, and;

WHEREAS the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners acknowledges the commitment of Highland Copper Company to maintain their transparent and regular engagement with local and regional communities and remain a positive partner for the region, and;

WHEREAS the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners recognizes the commitment of Highland Copper Company to develop an environmentally sound copper mine that will maximize local employment and will provide expansive economic benefits to the Western Upper Peninsula, contributing to the revitalization of the local and regional economy.

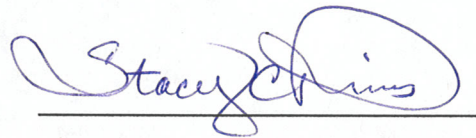
NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners fully supports the development of Highland Copper Company's Copperwood Mine Project.

The forgoing resolution offered by Commissioner Bourdeau second offered by Commissioner Nousiainen_ is declared adopted.

YEAS: Bourdeau, Nousiainen, Cane, Store & Nykanen

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None



Stacy C. Preiss, County Clerk



THE SENATE
STATE OF MICHIGAN

ED McBROOM
38TH DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MI 48909-7536
PHONE: (517) 373-7840
FAX: (517) 373-3932
senmcbroom@senate.michigan.gov

Dear Michigan Strategic Fund Board,

Thank you for your consideration of the Highland Copper – Copperwood Mine Project at your next meeting. This is a tremendous opportunity for the state of Michigan to make an enormous impact in one of the most economically challenged areas in all of the Upper Peninsula and the state of Michigan as a whole.

Following the closure of White Pine Copper Mine, the area has suffered from high unemployment, population decline, a loss of many community members, and a limitation on services they were once able to provide, among others. Most recently, the 2018 closure of the prison in Marenisco has devastated families, schools, churches, civic groups, and other business in the same area of the UP. The state pledged significant financial support to help the area deal with the closure, but it has struggled to find avenues to accomplish that goal outside of a few opportunities with local economic development agencies and some worker retraining.

As you are likely aware, this project has the power to both bring prosperity to an economically struggling region of our state, and also place Michigan at the forefront of the resource side of the electrical advancements currently occurring around the world. The project is expected to generate a total capital investment of \$425 million, and create roughly 380 high wage, family sustaining jobs in the Western UP.

The people of the area remember the opportunities and success mining brought to the area. They are confident in their ability to be partners with Highland Copper to bring prosperity to the area, the Upper Peninsula, and the state of Michigan.

Again, we thank you for consideration and ask that you move forward with the support for the project, helping to launch this great opportunity for our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed McBroom".

Senator Ed McBroom

38th Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory Markkanen".

Representative Greg Markkanen

110th House District



Alcona County Board of Commissioners

Alcona County Building
P.O. Box 308
Harrisville, MI 48740

Voice: (989) 724-9410
Facsimile: (989) 724-9419

January 17, 2024

Nicole Whitehead, EDFP
Business Operations Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Re: Letter of Support: Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP)
Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority Grant Request

Dear Ms. Whitehead,

On behalf of Alcona County we are very pleased to submit this letter of support for Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority. Specifically, we enthusiastically encourage the award of the SSRP grant funds, and understand what it will mean to our surrounding communities. The Alcona County Board of Commissioners, at their meeting of January 17, 2024, approved this communication.

Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority is critical for the continuing development of the area in northeast Michigan. As the OWAA grows, so does the community. Job activity on the former base are related to businesses and growth in Oscoda Township and Alcona County.

The airport's success since the base closing includes hosting Northeastern Michigan's largest employer, Kalitta Air, and multiple employers operating on the national stage, USA Jet, Phoenix Composite and Instacoat to name a few. The airport collectively employs approximately 2,200 workers and two dozen businesses. They are a leader locally and nationally in aviation related maintenance, repair, and overhaul.

The Airport's impact on our area, and more specifically Alcona County is of great value to the residents of this area, and for the businesses growth and job opportunities both on the airport and in the surrounding area which includes Alcona County

If additional discussion might be helpful, please feel free to contact me by calling 989 590 2137 or via email at abrege@alcona-county.net.

Sincerely,
Adam Brege, Chairman
Alcona Count Board of Commissioners



COUNTY OF BERRIEN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Daniel Fette, Director
Berrien County Administration Building
701 Main Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085
Phone: 269-983-7111 ext. 8617
Email: dfette@berriencounty.org

October 20, 2023

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Ms. Terri Fitzpatrick, Executive Vice President, Chief Real Estate and Global Attraction Officer
300 N Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

RE: Cornerstone Alliance Application – Strategic Site Readiness Program

Ms. Fitzpatrick,

Please accept this letter of support for the Cornerstone Alliance application for MEDC's Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP).

As a border county, and the closest Michigan location to the Chicago metro, no County better understands the importance of site readiness and site development more than Berrien County. We have a long history of investing in industrial sites that has created high-wage, high-skill jobs for generations of Michiganders. Berrien County has successfully partnered with the MEDC, EGLE, MDOT and many other state entities on projects that can be replicated across the state, and are viewed as best-in-class developments.

The Cornerstone Alliance SSRP application includes specific eligible activities, on strategic sites, located in traditionally underserved areas. Investment in these sites will lead to significant capital investment, job creation, and provide the State of Michigan with desirable, shovel-ready sites.

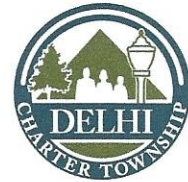
In many cases, Berrien County is the first impression most people receive when visiting the State of Michigan. Having the MEDC invest SSRP funding into our community will provide new business opportunities that will grow Michigan's population, tax base and quality of life.

If you have any questions, please contact me at dfette@berriencounty.org, or (269) 983-7111

Thank you,

Dan Fette – Director
Community Development Department
County of Berrien

DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S OFFICE



2074 Aurelius Road
Holt, MI 48842-6320

Phone (517) 694-2137
Fax (517) 694-3847

January 16, 2024

Nicole Whitehead
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

RE: Local Support for Site Readiness Funding

Dear Ms. Whitehead:

On behalf of Delhi Charter Township, I am pleased to submit this letter to express our support for the Lansing Economic Area Partnership's (LEAP) grant application for the 1375 College Road site readiness funding. We understand the significance of this opportunity and firmly believe that the development of this site holds great promise for the economic growth and resilience of our township and the broader region. Delhi Charter Township is committed to fostering a vibrant and thriving business community, and we recognize the potential impact that developing this site further could have on our local economy.

Our team is ready to collaborate closely, providing the necessary resources and expertise to ensure the success of this venture. We believe that the strategic investment in site readiness is a pivotal step toward attracting and retaining businesses that will contribute to the growth and prosperity of our community. LEAP's commitment to advancing economic development aligns with our own goals, and we are excited about the positive impact that this collaboration can have on the Delhi Charter Township and the entire region.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at tracy.miller@delhitownshipmi.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tracy Miller", is written over a horizontal line.

Tracy Miller
Township Manager



January 11, 2024

Nicole Whitehead, EDFP, Business Operations Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Re: Letter of Support: Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority Grant Request

Dear Ms. Whitehead:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Develop Iosco, Inc., we offer this letter of support for Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport Authority (OWAA)'s Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) grant that will represent a significant economic investment in Iosco County.

Develop Iosco serves as the economic development organization in Iosco County by convening and facilitating economic development activities within Iosco County related to business development. We recognize that OWAA is critical to the success of the county's economic prosperity and applaud their leadership role not only in the region but nationally in the aviation industry with support services including maintenance, repair, and overhaul.

OWAA's impact on employment in Iosco County is significant. The county was home to 25,213 residents in 2020. Nearly fifteen percent (14.6%), or approximately 3,700, of county residents met the federal poverty guidelines. Between 2019 and 2020, median household income declined from \$43,678 to \$42,628, a -2.4% decrease. This data underscores the importance of why investments in job creation and business development are so important to the community.

OWAA's SSRP grant will have a positive impact on the economic development of the community. The airport is home to Iosco County's largest employer, Kalitta Air, which singularly represents 7% of the county's employed workforce according to 2022 data from the Michigan Labor Market and the Northeast Michigan Council of Government. Other nationwide employers such as USA Jet, Phoenix Composite and Instacoat are cornerstone businesses at OWAA. The airport campus collectively employs nearly one-quarter of all workers in Iosco County.

As an economic development organization, DI promotes Iosco County as a place for business growth to improve the quality of life for current and new residents. The SSRP project exemplifies an opportunity that Develop Iosco wholeheartedly supports. We look forward to supporting OWAA's efforts in the community.

Sincerely,

Gloria A. Brooks, MPA
President, Board of Directors
president@develop-iosco.org

Christopher Martin
Executive Director
executivedirector@develop-iosco.org



Detroit
Regional
Partnership

October 30, 2023

Terri Fitzpatrick
EVP|Chief Real estate and Global Attraction Officer
Executive Director, Office of Tribal Business Development
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

RE: SSRP APPLICATION for Innovation Interchange Technology & Industrial Park
Latson Road Site, Howell, Michigan

Dear Terri,

The Detroit Regional Partnership (DRP) strongly supports the Innovation Technology & Industrial Park's request for SSRP funding support to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Latson Partners LLC has committed hundreds of thousands of dollars to procure and develop the site. The 300 acre site is strategically located with direct access to the Latson Road Interchange at I-96. Sewer and water have been extended to the site. The site is located in the heart of Livingston County, just 6 miles from US23, 16 miles from Oakland County and 22 miles from Ann Arbor.

The site is currently in DRP's Verified Industrial Properties site readiness program (VIP BY DRP) and is a strategic site for our region. It has been submitted for numerous RFI's and was identified as the top Data Center site by Consultants Newmark. DRP anticipates spending VIP funding to further study the site and ready it for development.

We are ready and available to have follow up discussions with the MEDC and partners on why we believe this site should be considered for SSRP funding.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Maureen'.

Maureen Donohue Krauss
President and CEO



Detroit
Regional
Partnership



Detroit
Regional
Partnership

October 30, 2023

Terri Fitzpatrick
EVP|Chief Real estate and Global Attraction Officer
Executive Director, Office of Tribal Business Development
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

RE: SSRP APPLICATION for Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership (SEDP)
Sites: Parmenter and Owosso

Dear Terri,

The Detroit Regional Partnership (DRP) strongly supports industrial sites Parmenter and Owosso in Shiawassee County and Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership's request for SSRP funding support to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Both sites are in DRP's Verified Industrial Properties Program and have been vetted through our 3rd party engineers due diligence process. Both sites have been submitted for numerous RFI's on behalf of our region. There is a unique funding opportunity for shared utility resources to these sites with a significant amount of existing capacity.

We are ready and available to have follow up discussions with the MEDC and partners on why we believe both sites should be considered for SSRP funding.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Maureen'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'M'.

Maureen Donohue Krauss
President and CEO



Detroit
Regional
Partnership



SAM SINGH
MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER
MICHIGAN SENATE

28TH DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MI 48909-7536
PHONE: (517) 373-3447
FAX: (517) 373-5849
senssingh@senate.michigan.gov

October 17, 2023
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Strategic Site Readiness Program
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Subject: Letter of Support – Strategic Site Readiness Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to offer my support for the Lansing Economic Development Corporation's Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) application.

The City of Lansing is dedicated to revitalizing blighted properties and bringing new commercial business to the many vacant parcels that are available, with a priority on the Racer Trust Plant 6 site. This industrial property requires extensive predevelopment work to make it an attractive investment. Through the SSRP grant, Lansing intends to eliminate barriers to development on the site that have kept the property vacant for decades.

The Racer Trust Plant 6 site holds immense potential to enhance the economic landscape through the potential of the electric vehicle industry making its home in Lansing and its surrounding areas. The preparation of this site shows the City's commitment to fostering a conducive environment for businesses, attracting investment, and ultimately bolstering the economic vitality of the region.

As a State Senator, advocating for the economic prosperity of my district is among my highest priorities and I recognize the significant impact that investments like the SSRP grant can have on our community. Collaboration and partnerships between local and state entities, as demonstrated here, are crucial to realizing these positive changes and advancing our common goals.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sam Singh'.

Majority Floor Leader
State Senator Sam Singh



76TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ANGELA WITWER

APPROPRIATIONS CHAIR

PHONE: (517) 373-0822
FAX: (517) 373-5276
AngelaWitwer@house.mi.gov

October 16, 2023

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Strategic Site Readiness Program
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Subject: Letter of Support – Strategic Site Readiness Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to offer my support for the Lansing Economic Development Corporation's Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) application.

The City of Lansing is dedicated to revitalizing blighted properties and bringing new commercial business to the many vacant parcels that are available, with a priority on the Racer Trust Plant 6 site. This industrial property requires extensive predevelopment work to make it an attractive investment. Through the SSRP grant, Lansing intends to eliminate barriers to development on the site that have kept the property vacant for decades.

The Racer Trust Plant 6 site holds immense potential to enhance the economic landscape through the potential of the electric vehicle industry making its home in Lansing and its surrounding areas. The preparation of this site shows the City's commitment to fostering a conducive environment for businesses, attracting investment, and ultimately bolstering the economic vitality of the region.

As a state representative, advocating for the economic prosperity of my district is among my highest priorities and I recognize the significant impact that investments like the SSRP grant can have on our community. Collaboration and partnerships between local and state entities, as demonstrated here, are crucial to realizing these positive changes and advancing our common goals.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office at 517-373-0822 or at AngelaWitwer@house.mi.gov.

Sincerely,

Angela Witwer
State Representative
House District 76



77TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
EMILY E. DIEVENDORF
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-2277
FAX: (517) 373-8731
EmilyDievendorf@house.mi.gov

October 20, 2023

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Strategic Site Readiness Program
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to offer my support for the Lansing Economic Development Corporation's Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) application.

The City of Lansing is dedicated to revitalizing blighted properties and bringing new commercial business to the many vacant parcels that are available, with a priority on the Racer Trust Plant 6 site. This industrial property requires extensive predevelopment work to make it an attractive investment. Through the SSRP grant, Lansing intends to eliminate barriers to development on the site that have kept the property vacant for decades.

The Racer Trust Plant 6 site holds immense potential to enhance the economic landscape through the potential of the electric vehicle industry making its home in Lansing and its surrounding areas. The preparation of this site shows the City's commitment to fostering a conducive environment for businesses, attracting investment, and ultimately bolstering the economic vitality of the region.

As a State Representative, advocating for the economic prosperity of my district is among my highest priorities and I recognize the significant impact that investments like the SSRP grant can have on our community. Collaboration and partnerships between local and state entities, as demonstrated here, are crucial to realizing these positive changes and advancing our common goals.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (517) 373-2277 or at EmilyDievendorf@house.mi.gov.

In Solidarity,

Representative Emily E. Dievendorf

State Representative
77th District



Andy Schor
Mayor



City Hall - 9th Floor
124 W. Michigan Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933-1694
PH: 517.483.4141 – FAX: 517.483.6066
Lansing.Mayor@lansingmi.gov

Andy Schor, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

October 18, 2023

Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Strategic Site Readiness Program
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Subject: Letter of Support – Strategic Site Readiness Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly support the Lansing Economic Development Corporation's (LEDC) Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) application.

Lansing has a rich history of fostering economic development and attracting investments, and the LEDC has been instrumental in these efforts. The SSRP grant presents an opportunity to further enhance our community's economic landscape by preparing one of the city's priority sites in the Racer Trust Plant 6 site. This industrial property requires extensive predevelopment work.

Through the SSRP grant, Lansing intends to eliminate barriers to development on the Racer Trust Plant 6 site that have kept the property vacant for decades. The Racer Trust Plant 6 site has a substantial opportunity to transform the city's economic landscape, with the potential for the electric vehicle industry to establish a significant presence in Lansing and its neighboring areas.

I have complete confidence in the LEDC's ability to affectively utilize and implement the SSRP grant, leveraging its potential to benefit both the local economy and the residents of Lansing. The LEDC's commitment to economic development and their proven track record in successful project execution instills further confidence in the success of this initiative.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Schor".

Andy Schor
Mayor

"Equal Opportunity Employer"





October 17, 2023

Terri Fitzpatrick, Executive Vice President, Chief Real Estate and Global Attraction Officer
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick,

Please accept this letter of support for the Strategic Site Readiness Program (“SSRP”) grant application for the Southwest Michigan Commerce Park that Franklin Partners (the Developer) is pursuing. Approximately 120 acres of this 265-acre development is located within Comstock Township and is zoned LM (Light Manufacturing), which includes many commercial and industrial uses.

This site is very close in proximity to the Midlink Business Park, one of the region’s most successful redevelopment projects, that was assisted by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, which is now home to a diverse group of commercial and industrial users. This site is adjacent to an active industrial and commercial corridor with many jobs that make it prime for investment, but for the infrastructure improvements and site preparation challenges of the site.

Comstock Township has worked with Franklin Partners on rezoning requests and the creation of an Industrial Development District on the site, and they have been accommodating to the requests of the board in developing a site that benefits both the end users, and the community alike. The investment of State dollars on this site would have a dramatic impact on Comstock, its tax base, and its potential for

new jobs in the area. As the first township to be a Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC) Certified Community, Comstock Township has always been proactive in supporting development and the progress of the Township. The Township has already been engaged in discussions with the Developer about supporting the project through a Brownfield Plan to help move this project forward.

Thank you for your consideration of the Southwest Michigan Commerce Park for the Strategic Site Readiness Program ("SSRP"). Comstock Township is excited for the opportunity to see site readiness dollars go to work in our community. We have worked closely with the developer to help bring this site to fruition, and look forward to continuing our progress with the developer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "n".

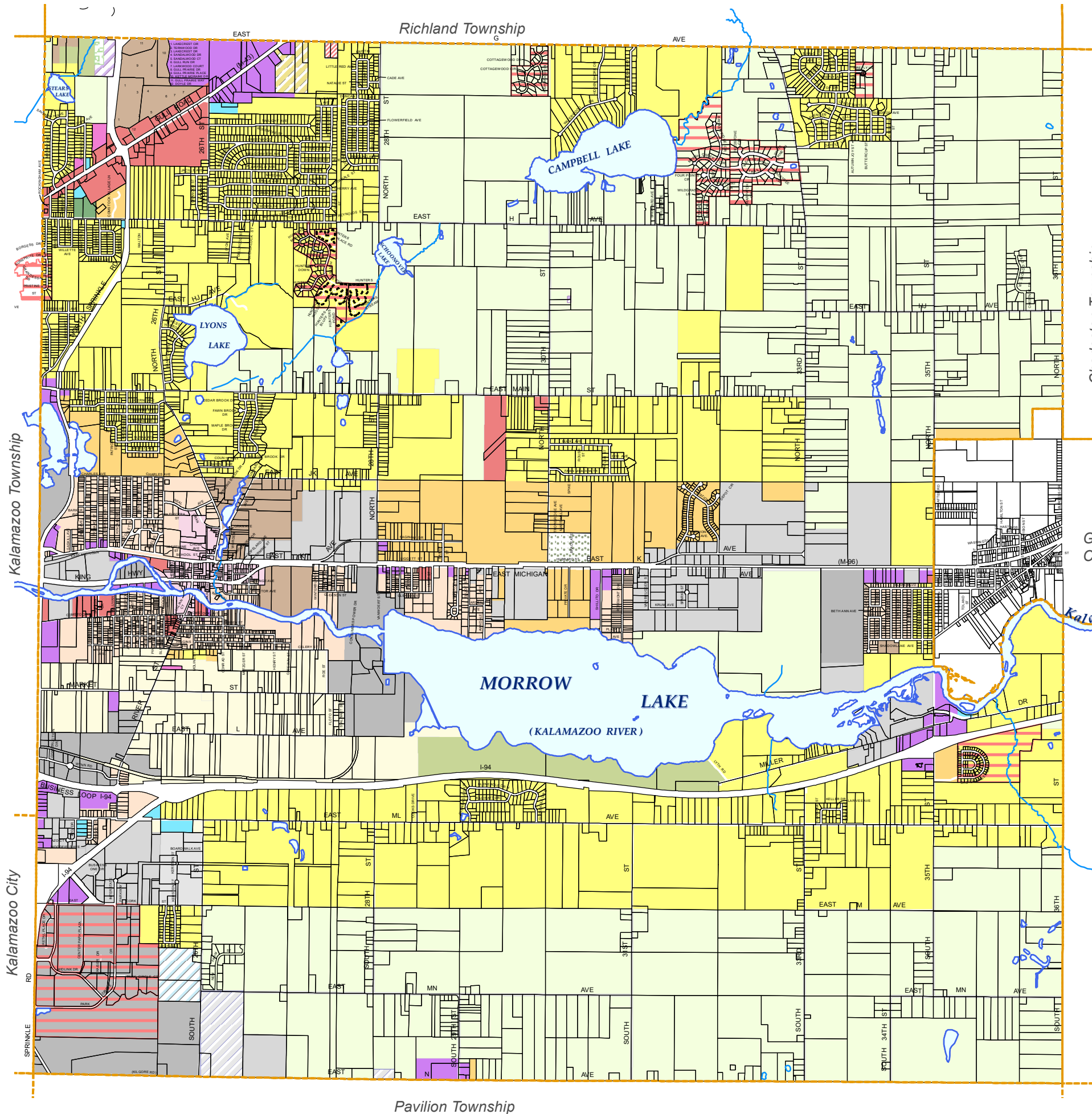
Randy Thompson, Township Supervisor

Comstock Township

269.381-2360

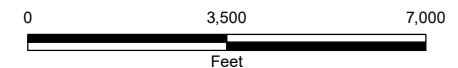
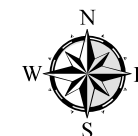
Comstock Charter Township ZONING MAP

Last Revision Per Ordinance 534 Adopted September 18, 2023



Legend

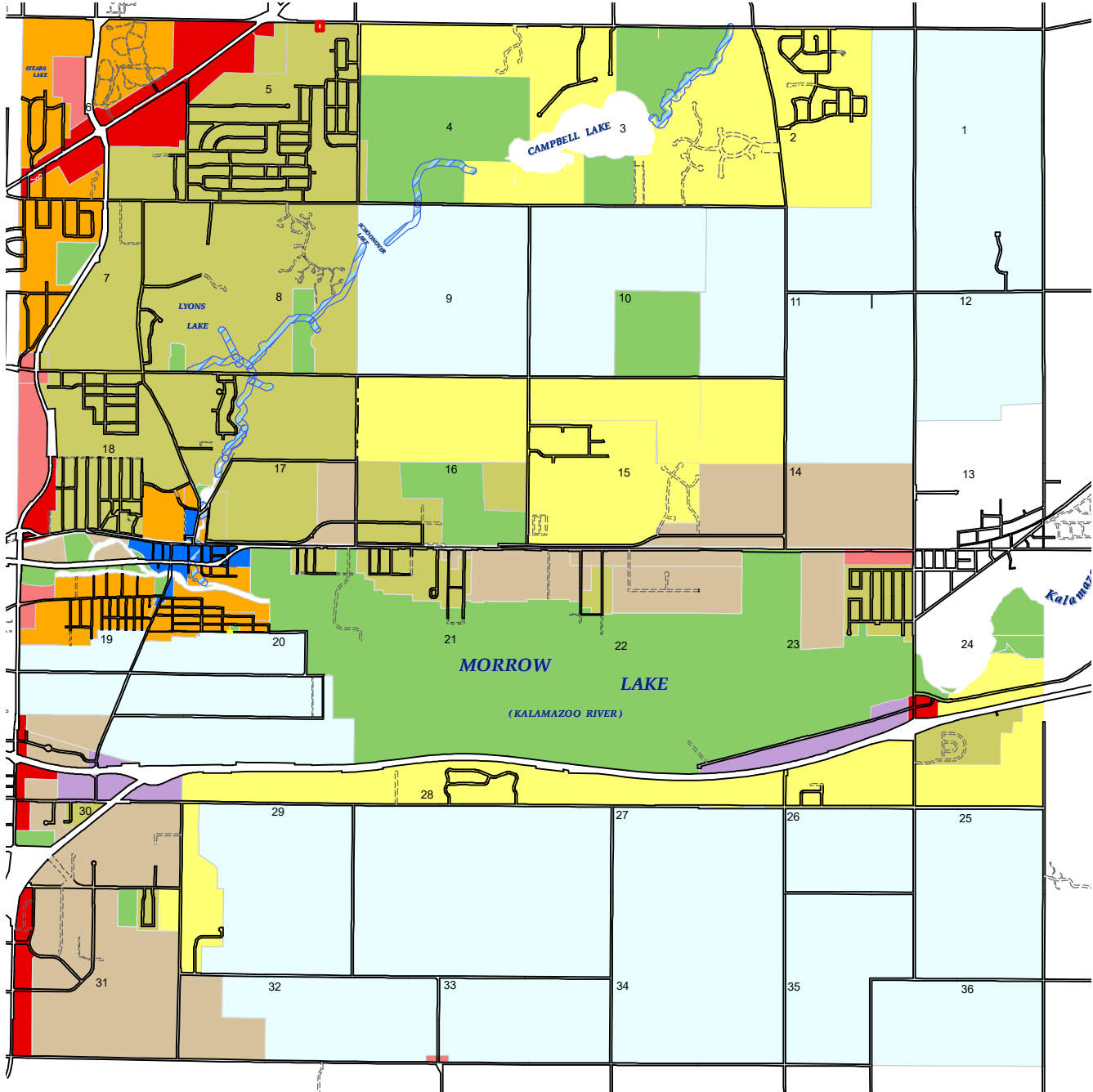
- AGR AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
- A-H AGRICULTURAL-HORTICULTURAL DISTRICT
- R-1A SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICT
- R-1B SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICT
- R-1C CLUSTER HOUSING DISTRICT
- RM MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
- RM_C MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL_CONDITIONAL
- RMH MOBILE HOME PARK DISTRICT
- RSM SENIOR CITIZENS MULTIPLE STORY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
- O-1 OFFICE DISTRICT
- OW OPEN WETLANDS DISTRICT
- OW_C OPEN WETLANDS CONDITIONAL
- CC COMSTOCK CENTER
- B-1 NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT
- B-2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT
- B-2_C COMMUNITY BUSINESS_CONDITIONAL
- B-3 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT
- B-3_C GENERAL BUSINESS_CONDITIONAL
- LD RESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT
- LM LIGHT MANUFACTURING DISTRICT
- M MANUFACTURING DISTRICT
- LM_C LIGHT MANUFACTURING_CONDITIONAL
- M_C MANUFACTURING_CONDITIONAL
- PUD - PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENTS



Map Prepared September 2023






FUTURE LAND USE MAP

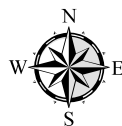
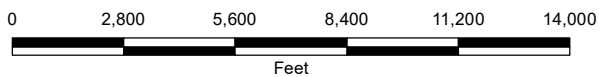
Charter Township of Comstock



Legend

Future Land Use

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
|  Agriculture |  Core Residential |  Transitional Industrial |
|  Suburban Residential |  Town Center |  General Industrial |
|  Compact Residential |  Corridor Commercial |  Parks and Open Space |
| | |  Comstock Creek Overlay |



Adopted July 18, 2016
Amended December 4, 2017; August 21, 2023



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PAVILION

Est. 1836

October 19, 2023

Terri Fitzpatrick, Executive Vice President, Chief Real Estate and Global Attraction Officer
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick,

Please accept this letter of support for the Strategic Site Readiness Program (“SSRP”) grant application for the Southwest Michigan Commerce Park that Franklin Partners (the Developer) is pursuing. The majority of the 265-acre site is encompassed in Pavilion Township, offering over 150 contiguous acres for development.

The property was originally listed for sale a number of years ago and was subsequently purchased by the developer in December 2021. While the site is an excellent development opportunity for industrial uses, the infrastructure improvement requirements, such as extension of the 18” sewer main, and site preparation activities have been cost prohibitive and have not met the timeline demands of prospective purchasers and end users. The site is otherwise primed for development, including All-Season Class-A road access to I-94 in under 2 miles, located proximate to other large industrial companies, and a 6” gas main, 16” water main, and 138 kV electric at the property boundary.

The development of this site would have broad reaching benefits to the community at large and has been a priority for the Township. Development of this site will increase the tax base within Pavilion Township, increase job opportunities for our residents, and would extend the 18” sanitary sewer main further into Pavilion Township.

Franklin Partners has been a respectable developer throughout their process of acquiring the property, and have taken into consideration the needs and desires of the township and community that they are investing in.

Thank you for your consideration of the Southwest Michigan Commerce Park for the Strategic Site Readiness Program (“SSRP”). Pavilion Township is excited for the opportunity to see site readiness dollars go to work in our community. We have worked closely with the developer to help bring this site to fruition, and look forward to continuing our progress with the developer.

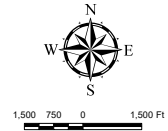
Sincerely,

John Speeter, Township Supervisor
Pavilion Township
269.327-0462

Pavilion Township

Kalamazoo County, Michigan

Zoning Map



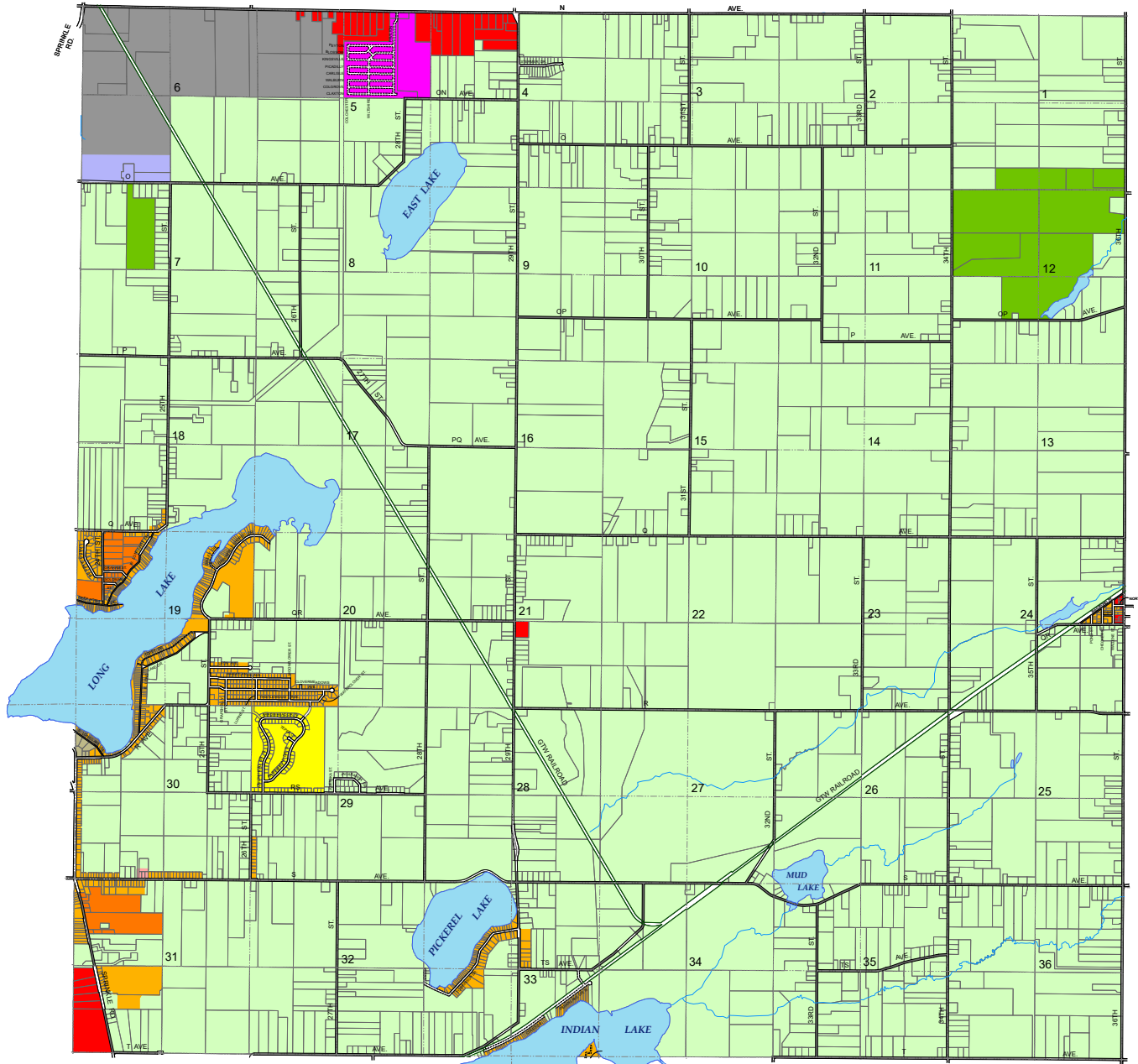
LEGEND

- A-1 Agriculture
- A-2 Agriculture
- R-1 Residential, Single Family
- R-2 Residential, Single Family
- R-3 Residential, Single & Two Family
- R-4 Residential, Multiple Family
- R-5 Residential, Multiple Family, High Density
- R-6 Mobile Home Park
- C-1 Commercial, Local
- C-2 Commercial, General
- I-1 Industrial, Restricted
- I-2 Industrial, Manufacturing
- I-3 Industrial, Service

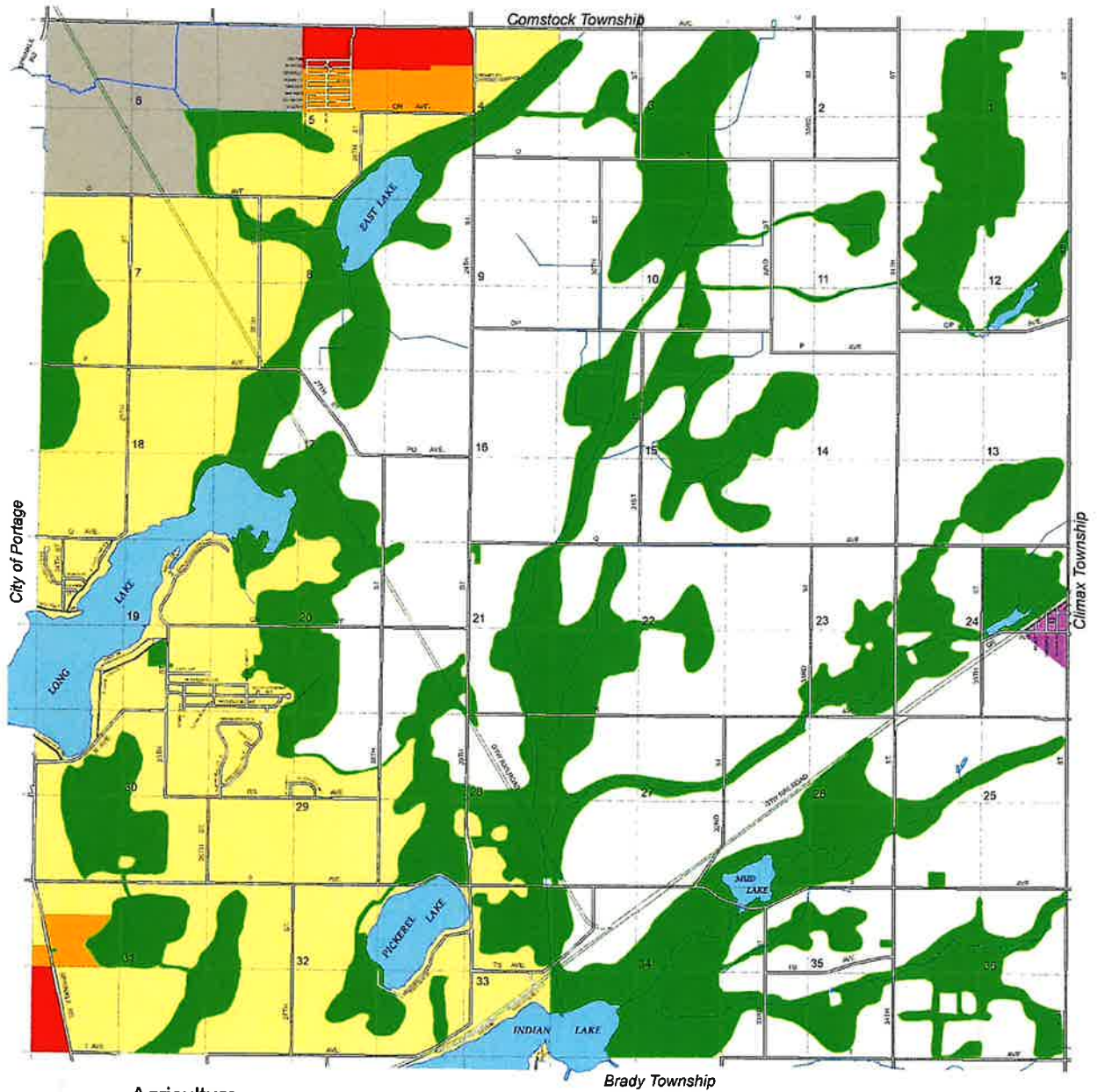
Revised as to Use District Amendments

Through Ordinance Number: 170
Effective: September 13, 2021

Printed: January 2023



Pavilion Township Future Land Use Map



- Agriculture
- Low Density Residential
- Medium Density Residential
- Scotts Mixed Use
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Open Space



Is the proposed Strategic Site or Mega-Strategic Site incorporated into a strategic plan of a political subdivision of Michigan?

Yes

Please explain

Project Link 2.0
DRP Verified Industrial Property (VIP)

ms lac report 1023.pdf

Provide any other additional criteria approved by the MSF Board that are specific to each individual project, and consistent with the purpose of the SSRP.

This property has one owner, it is zoned industrial, it is competitively priced, most utilities are in place with the exception of the sewer, and there is suitable power for developers/manufacturers that would consider this site.

Michigan Strategic Fund

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Monroe County Business Alliance (MCBA), please accept this letter offering our support for LAC Real Estate Corporation application for the Strategic Site Readiness Program.

LAC Real Estate is a family trust that has slowly been selling off the family farm. A few years ago they sold acreage that is now home to a large megawatt solar farm. The 140 acre parcel we are seeking support is currently zoned light industrial and will make a great large site for an advanced manufacturing operation or an industrial park.

The above-mentioned parcel is incorporated as part of our soon to be released Link Plan 2.0, a second phase comprehensive economic development strategy with site readiness as a key component.

We ask that you give this site your consideration for financial support as it will be key in growing the area.

Should you have any questions related to this communication please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in a Successful Michigan

Tim C. Lake
CEO



2724 Peck Street
Muskegon Heights, Michigan 49444

Phone (231) 733-8870
Fax (231) 332-6624

January 9, 2024

Nicole Whitehead, EDFP
Business Operations Director
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Ms. Whitehead,

On behalf of the City of Muskegon Heights, I am writing in support of the recent SSRP grant submittal from Muskegon Area First d/b/a Greater Muskegon Economic Development (GMED), for the Muskegon Heights Industrial Park.

The City of Muskegon Heights worked in partnership with GMED and CIB Consultants on the completion of the Master Plan for both industrial parks in the City. The Master Plan was possible through a USEDA planning grant. The final Master Plan and Marketing Study was approved by the City Council on August 28, 2023.

Our next steps are to take action on the various parts of the Industrial Park Master Plan, including property assembly, marketing, wayfinding signage, infrastructure improvements, etc. The plan includes information on the various properties available for redevelopment and property assembly. Additional industrial land is needed throughout Muskegon County and Muskegon Heights has several properties that can be assembled and marketed for this use. New and expanded manufacturing will be a huge benefit to the City of Muskegon Heights and its residents, both for an increase in tax base and greater job opportunities within the City, requiring less commuting time. The addition of available industrial land will also benefit the entire County.

Please let me know if you have any questions in this regard. Thank you for your consideration of this grant request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melvin C. Burns II".

Melvin C. Burns II
Interim City Manager

"City of Friendly People"



Charter Township of Monitor

2483 MIDLAND ROAD ≈ BAY CITY, MICHIGAN 48706 ≈ PHONE (989) 684-7203 ≈ FAX (989) 684-9234
www.monitorwp.org

DATE: 01/08/23
TO: Michigan Economic Development Corporation
FROM: Terry M. Spencer, Supervisor
RE: Re: SSRP Application

January 8, 2024


As the Supervisor for the Charter Township of Monitor, I would like to thank Bay Future, Inc. and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for your support of the Strategic Site Readiness Program (SSRP) and your willingness to work with the Township to make this type of site improvement possible.

This program is valuable to Monitor Township both in terms of investment in our community and the creation of new employment opportunities for our residents. The Township is fully committed to the success of this program and as Township Supervisor it is my intention to ensure that the indicated parcels will receive the proper zoning designation as laid out in our Master Plan. In addition, the Township will work closely with Bay Future, Inc and the MEDC to facilitate site improvement in Monitor Township, including expediting all required permits as well as creating a positive network with MEDC Officials and Township Management personnel.

Monitor Township looks forward to a strong and prosperous relationship with MEDC. We are committed to working closely with our partner, Bay Future, Inc., and your organization to bring economic growth and stability to our community.

Finally, we believe that the site improvements will attract suitable business and prosperity in Monitor Township. We look forward to working closely together with you to make our Township, County, and Region a great place to live, work, worship, and play.

Sincerely,



Terry M. Spencer, Supervisor



Dated

Terry M. Spencer
Supervisor
Charter Township of Monitor



10TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PHONE: (517) 373-0857
FAX: (517) 373-5976
JoeTate@house.mi.gov

JOE TATE
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

October 27, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to share my full support of the Covenant Industrial Park (CIP) site development project in Lowell Charter Township along I-96 at Exit 52. I agree with the regional economic development agency – The Right Place – that this project is a priority for west and central Michigan.

The areas along I-96 east of Grand Rapids, including Lowell, are well-situated to be the next frontier in the economic development along the Grand Rapids-Lansing corridor. The Covenant Industrial Park is uniquely situated on a key east-west highway, near a north-south highway, and within minutes of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport. The CIP site-readiness project will allow the developer to build-to-suit for industrial and commercial users and attract needed businesses and jobs. The \$35 million investment will allow for the construction of the necessary water services and infrastructure to the site, along with related improvements to the City of Lowell wastewater facility.

Located between Lansing and the Grand Rapids metro area, the CIP will attract talent and business to central and west Michigan. Given its location between these two metro areas, the site will have access to a large skilled labor pool of approximately 900,000 people. This project is needed for the further economic growth of the area. Currently, the Greater Grand Rapids area has an industrial vacancy rate of under 1.7%. Experts argue that the CIP project will help spur the growth of up to 3,000 jobs in west and central Michigan, meaning the investment is at \$11,667 per job created. That is a worthwhile project for jobs in the central and west Michigan community. There is also significant potential for further residential, retail, commercial and industrial development areas to the south, east, and west of the CIP site.

It is my understanding that The Right Place will be submit an application to the MEDC for funds to accomplish the wastewater system upgrade at the site. I fully support the CIP investment and appreciate your consideration of this letter. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Joe Tate
Speaker of the House



76TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ANGELA WITWER
APPROPRIATIONS CHAIR

PHONE: (517) 373-0822
FAX: (517) 373-5276
AngelaWitwer@house.mi.gov

To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing you to express our full support of the Covenant Industrial Park (CIP) site development project in Lowell Charter Township along I-96 at Exit 52. We agree with our regional economic development agency – The Right Place – that this project is a priority for west and central Michigan.

The areas along I-96 east of Grand Rapids, including Lowell, are well-situated to be the next frontier in the economic development along the Grand Rapids-Lansing corridor. The Covenant Industrial Park is uniquely situated on a key east-west highway, near a north-south highway, and within minutes of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport. The CIP site-readiness project will allow the developer to build-to-suit for industrial and commercial users and attract needed businesses and jobs. The \$35 million investment allow for the construction of the necessary water services and infrastructure to the site, along with related improvements to the City of Lowell wastewater facility.

Located between Lansing and the Grand Rapids metro area, the CIP will attract talent and business to central and west Michigan. Given its location between these two metro areas, the site will have access to a large skilled labor pool of approximately 900,000 people. This project is needed for the further economic growth of the area. Currently, the Greater Grand Rapids area has an industrial vacancy rate of under 1.7%. Experts argue that the CIP project will help spur the growth of up to 3,000 jobs in west and central Michigan, meaning the investment is at \$11,667 per job created. That is a worthwhile project for jobs in the central and west Michigan community. There is also significant potential for further residential, retail, commercial and industrial development areas to the south, east, and west of the CIP site.

This September, we anticipate that The Right Place will be submit its application to the MEDC for funds to accomplish the wastewater system upgrade at the site. We fully support this investment for our communities.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our offices at GinaJohansen@house.mi.gov, PhilSkaggs@house.mi.gov, or AngelaWitwer@house.mi.gov.

Sincerely,

Angela Witwer
State Representative
District 76

Gina Johansen
State Representative
District 78

Phil Skaggs
State Representative
District 80



78TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GINA JOHNSEN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-1796
FAX: (517) 373-5918
GinaJohnsen@house.mi.gov

To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing you to express our full support of the Covenant Industrial Park (CIP) site development project in Lowell Charter Township along I-96 at Exit 52. We agree with our regional economic development agency – The Right Place – that this project is a priority for west and central Michigan.

The areas along I-96 east of Grand Rapids, including Lowell, are well-situated to be the next frontier in the economic development along the Grand Rapids-Lansing corridor. The Covenant Industrial Park is uniquely situated on a key east-west highway, near a north-south highway, and within minutes of the Gerald R. Ford International Airport. The CIP site-readiness project will allow the developer to build-to-suit for industrial and commercial users and attract needed businesses and jobs. The \$35 million investment allow for the construction of the necessary water services and infrastructure to the site, along with related improvements to the City of Lowell wastewater facility.

Located between Lansing and the Grand Rapids metro area, the CIP will attract talent and business to central and west Michigan. Given its location between these two metro areas, the site will have access to a large skilled labor pool of approximately 900,000 people. This project is needed for the further economic growth of the area. Currently, the Greater Grand Rapids area has an industrial vacancy rate of under 1.7%. Experts argue that the CIP project will help spur the growth of up to 3,000 jobs in west and central Michigan, meaning the investment is at \$11,667 per job created. That is a worthwhile project for jobs in the central and west Michigan community. There is also significant potential for further residential, retail, commercial and industrial development areas to the south, east, and west of the CIP site.

This September, we anticipate that The Right Place will be submit its application to the MEDC for funds to accomplish the wastewater system upgrade at the site. We fully support this investment for our communities.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our offices at GinaJohnsen@house.mi.gov or PhilSkaggs@house.mi.gov.

Sincerely,

Gina Johnsen, State Representative, District 78

Phil Skaggs, State Representative, District 80

October 16, 2023

Paul O'Connell
Vice President Real Estate Development
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Paul O'Connell

I am writing today to express support for the proposed Covenant Industrial Park sewer and water project located in Lowell Township.

Lowell Township and the City of Lowell are working together to plan and expand services and build capacity for future development by the I-96 interchange. Once the utilities are in place, the Covenant Industrial Park will be developed and provide much needed employment and industrial opportunities by creating an estimated 3500 jobs and \$150 million annually in new payroll. A \$35 million investment to bring the necessary wastewater service to the site and the related expansion to the City of Lowell's plant is only \$11,667 per job created.

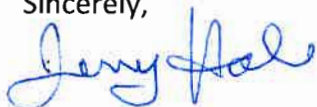
This project will allow Lowell Township to have a better plan for future residential development in the township and help us to preserve our farmland.

The Kent County Youth Agricultural Association is developing property in that area for a new fairgrounds and expo center campus and this project would help them in planning for their long-term water and sewer needs.

The Township would be willing to be creative in working with the developer to explore supplementary funding avenues to make this project possible.

Lowell Township urges the State of Michigan to support this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry Hale".

Jerry Hale
Lowell Township Supervisor



301 East Main Street
Lowell, Michigan 49331
Phone (616) 897-8457
Fax (616) 897-4085

January 21, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

On January 18, 2022, the City of Lowell City Council approved a motion stating the following in regards to property totaling approximately 240 acres in the south part of Lowell Charter Township and located adjacent to I-96 that has the potential for significant industrial development:

1. To facilitate development and encourage grant funding, the City Attorney and City Manager are authorized to work with the Township to negotiate a letter of understanding which may include consideration of a 425 agreement and establishment of a joint authority for sewer and water serving both the City and Township.
2. That the City investigate and support further joint efforts with the Township that may be in the best interests of both.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Burns
City Manager