RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING

KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

August 31, 2012
Sent by fax to 616-527-6149

Ms. Marilyn Palmer
Berlin Township Treasurer
1871 West Peck Lake Road
Ionia, MI 48846-9444

Dear Treasurer:

Subject: Notice of Estimated Payments in Lieu of Taxes
DNR Land Transaction #20080192

In accordance with Public Act Numbers 240 and 294 of 2012, this notice is being provided to you as the Treasurer of the local taxing unit where the Department of Natural Resources is acquiring new public land. These Public Acts require the Department to estimate the amount of annual payments in lieu of taxes (PILT) on public lands that it is acquiring, and to provide that information to you at least 30 days before the acquisition. Please note that these are only estimates. The Department does not have the authority to determine the valuation of real property for the purposes of the annual PILT payments. Per MCL 324.2153 this authority lies with the State Tax Commission.

The following is a breakdown of the Department's estimate of annual PILT payments for public lands where Act 451 of 1994, Part 21, Subpart 14 directs the State to make these payments and for those lands where Subpart 13 directs the payment of taxes on tax reverted, recreation, and forest lands that are not covered under Subpart 14.

Subpart 13 – Estimated tax on tax reverted, recreation, and forest lands: $24.40.

Subpart 14 - Estimated Annual PILT Payments: $0.00.

Also, for your information I have attached a copy of a memo that summarizes this acquisition of public land within your jurisdiction.

Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me at Real Estate Services Section, Acquisitions and Exchanges, P.O. Box 30448, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7948.

Sincerely,

Paul Johnson
Real Estate Services Section
Johnsonp1@michigan.gov
(517) 373-1096 voice
(517) 335-1880 fax

PJ/mh

Enclosures

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

APPROVED
_____, 20____
MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
_____
(ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION)

December 7, 2009

TO:	Natural Resources Commission
INFORMATION:	Rebecca A. Humphries, Director
Transaction:	Gift of Land – State Forest Trail Ionia to Lowell Railroad Corridor Phase II – Ionia and Kent Counties Land Transaction Case #20080192
Description:	87.59 acres (7.36 linear miles) See "Exhibit A" for the complete legal description
Donor:	Friends of the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail (FFMHT), a Michigan non-profit corporation, Edmore, Michigan
Special Conditions:	Preservation of the Railroad Corridor through provisions of federal law, Section 8(d) of the National Trails Act, 16 U.S.C. 1247 (d).
Reservations:	Subject to pre-existing leasehold rights conveyed by the railroad.
Property Taxes:	Not applicable to a non-profit corporation.
Authority:	Part 5, Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended
Notice:	This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources' (Department) December 28, 2009 Calendar, and is eligible for approval on January 4, 2010.
Comments:	The offered gift of 87.59 acres completes the conveyance of an inactive railroad corridor which roughly parallels the Grand River between Ionia and Lowell. The offered corridor extends westerly 7.36 miles from the west end of a nearly 50-mile-long segment that passes through the Ionia State Recreation Area and continues on to Owosso. Collectively, the two segments will provide 57 miles of corridor for multi-use recreational trail purposes.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
Keith J. Charters, Chair • Mary Brown • Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. • John Madigan • Timothy L. Nichols • J. R. Richardson • Frank Wheatlake

STEVENS T. MASON BUILDING • P.O. BOX 30028 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7528
www.michigan.gov/dnr • (517) 373-2329

The FFMHT, a 501(c)(3) Corporation, was organized in 1994 to establish a recreational trail using abandoned railroad rights-of-ways in Montcalm and Gratiot Counties. In this instance, the FFMHT assisted when the operating railroad indicated it planned to abandon two rail corridors but chose not to sell them to the State. The FFMHT has completed the purchase of the corridor between Lowell and Ionia, and is still negotiating to acquire the corridor between Greenville and Lowell.

The FFMHT approached the Department about buying the segment of the Lowell to Ionia corridor that passes through the Ionia Recreation Area. In the course of the discussions, it was suggested that they would gift the remainder of the corridor once some property management issues were resolved with the railroad on the segment to be gifted. The FFMHT purchased the corridor in 2008 and has also had a survey completed. Acquisition of the easterly 8.47-mile-long segment of this corridor was approved by the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) at its August 13, 2009 meeting.

The corridor is "railbanked" under federal transportation railbanking authority. Under federal statutory railbanking provisions, the integrity of the trail corridor is protected for future railroad use while providing interim recreational trail use.

Based on past practice, acquisition cases involving potential acquisition of Michigan Trailways are presented to the NRC for approval.

Recommendations:

(1) That the gift of the 7.36 miles of corridor, totaling 87.59 acres be accepted, with the condition that tracks and ties must first be removed and a satisfactory Environmental Assessment be completed prior to closing.

(2) That this gift, and ongoing efforts of the FFMHT, be recognized with appreciation.

(3) That the lands described above be acquired for use as a Michigan Trailway and designated as such when the legislated requirements are met, pursuant to Part 721 of Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended.

(4) That the lands described above be dedicated for public use as a recreation trail to be administered by the Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division.

David E. Freed, Chief
Land and Facilities

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management

Russ Mason, Chief
Wildlife

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation

Kelley D. Smith, Chief
Fisheries

Arminda S. Koch
Resource Management Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the NRC has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

EXHIBIT A
LTA Case #20080192

All that portion of the Grand Rapids Eastern Railroad Company's (Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc.) right-of-way that extends in a general East-West direction on, over, across a portion of Ionia County, Michigan, as depicted on Detroit, Grand Haven & Milwaukee Railway Company Right-of-Way and Track Maps V10-33, V10-34, and V10-35, varying in width and irregular in shape, and described as follows;

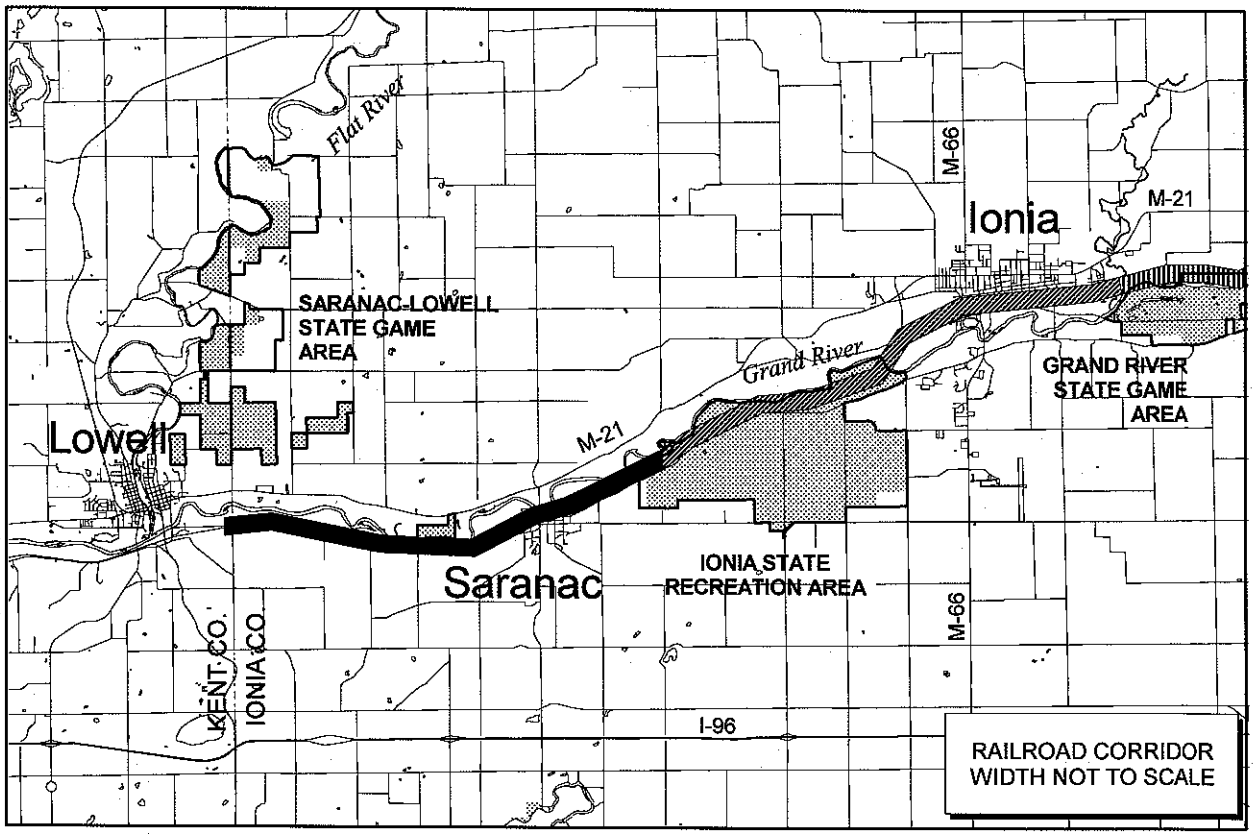
Commencing at a point known as Station 6888.54 being the East Line of Section 31, T06N, R07W, Ionia County, Michigan, thence traversing in a Westerly direction across the SE ¼ of Section 31, the NE ¼, the NW ¼, and the SW ¼ Section 6, T06N, R07W, Ionia County, Michigan.

Continuing Westerly across the NE ¼, the SE ¼ and the SW ¼ of Section 1, the SE ¼ of Section 4, and the NE ¼, and the NW ¼ of Section 11, the NE ¼ and the NW ¼ of Section 10, the NE ¼ and the NW ¼ of Section 9, the NE ¼ and the NW ¼ of Section 8, the SW ¼ of Section 5, the SW ¼ and the SE ¼ of Section 6, the NW ¼ of Section 7, T06 N, R 08W, Ionia County, Michigan.

Continuing Westerly across the SW ¼ of Section 1, and ending at a point known as Mile Post 137.83 being the South Line of Section 1, T06N, R09W, Kent County, Michigan.

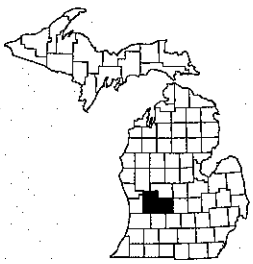
Subject to a Railbanking/Interim Trail Use Agreement which provides for reconveyance of the right-of-way in the event of the restoration of railroad service, dated April 4, 2008 (extended).

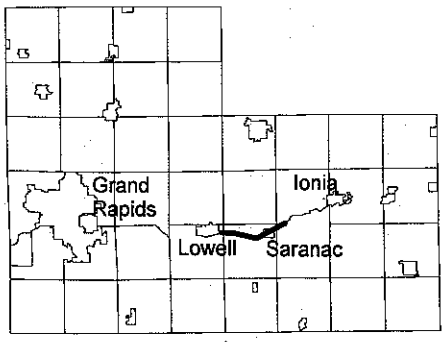
GIFT OF LAND - STATE FOREST TRAIL
Ionia To Lowell Railroad Corridor Phase II - Ionia and Kent Counties
Land Transaction Case #20080192



East end: Section 32, T06N, R07W, Berlin Township, Ionia County (Station 6888.54)
West end: Section 12, T06N, R08W, Lowell Township, Kent County (Milepost 137.83)

- State game area and recreation area boundaries
- Inactive railroad corridor approved for purchase, August 2009 (8.47 miles, 92.80 acres)
- Proposed gift of inactive railroad corridor (7.36 miles, 87.59 acres)
- Ionia to Owosso Railroad Corridor Trail
- State land
- Private land





N

DNR-FMFM
Dnrfile2\RAU_Projects\
Commission_Memos\OLAF\
20080192_grand river val_trail
20080192_phase2.apr
06-23-09, 4:30 pm