



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH  
DIRECTOR

August 18, 2014

**TO:** Keith Creagh, Director

**INFORMATION:** Natural Resources Commission

**Transaction:** State Trail Acquisition  
North Central State Trail Trailhead and Connection – Otsego County  
Land Transaction Case #20120005

**Purchase:** 1.71 acres, more or less, and 760 linear feet of permanent trail rights –  
purchase price to be determined by appraisal.

**PA 240 of 2012:** PILT Estimate: \$1,508.00  
This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an  
increase of 1.71 excluded acres.

**Description:** Otsego County, City of Gaylord, Livingston Township, T31N, R03W,  
Section 33: as more completely described in the case file.

**Seller:** Lake State Railway Company, Saginaw, Michigan

**Authority:** Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended.

**Notice:** This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources  
(Department) September 2, 2014, calendar, and is eligible for approval  
on September 9, 2014.

**Purpose:** The offered parcel, with accompanying permanent trail rights, is  
conveniently located at the southern terminus of the 62-mile long North  
Central State Trail (NCST), and will provide a destination trailhead for  
access to this state trail. The proposed trailside support facility will  
accommodate local residents and visitors by providing convenient  
access, restrooms, parking, potable water and other trail amenities.

**Comments:** Lake State Railway Company has not serviced any shippers along this  
section of track, and had attempted to abandon service over this section  
but was denied by the Surface Transportation Board over local  
concerns. As a result, the railroad will keep the tracks in place and  
retain an easement to operate over the railroad tracks at this location.

Acquisition of this parcel will contribute to achieving Department and  
Division goals and strategies by providing additional public recreation  
opportunities.

**Engagement:** The Gaylord Trailhead will be developed in partnership with Otsego  
County, City of Gaylord, Gaylord Downtown Development Authority,  
Gaylord Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau with help and

support from the Otsego County Economic Alliance. Leaders of each governmental unit have met with Department representatives multiple times to discuss the best location for the trailhead facility and this location has unanimous support. The trailhead location will provide access directly to Gaylord's downtown commercial district which will enhance the local economy. Otsego County has agreed to maintain the facility with help from various partners through a lease agreement with the Department.

- Recommendation:
- (1) That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, State Trails Initiative, as contained in Act 16 of 2011, and Act 283 of 2012.
  - (2) That the property be dedicated for public use and administered by the Parks and Recreation Division.



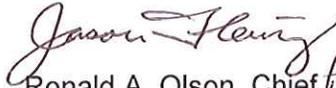
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief  
Wildlife Division



William O'Neill, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



James L. Dexter, Chief  
Fisheries Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief for  
Parks and Recreation Division



William E. Moritz, Ph.D.  
Natural Resources Deputy



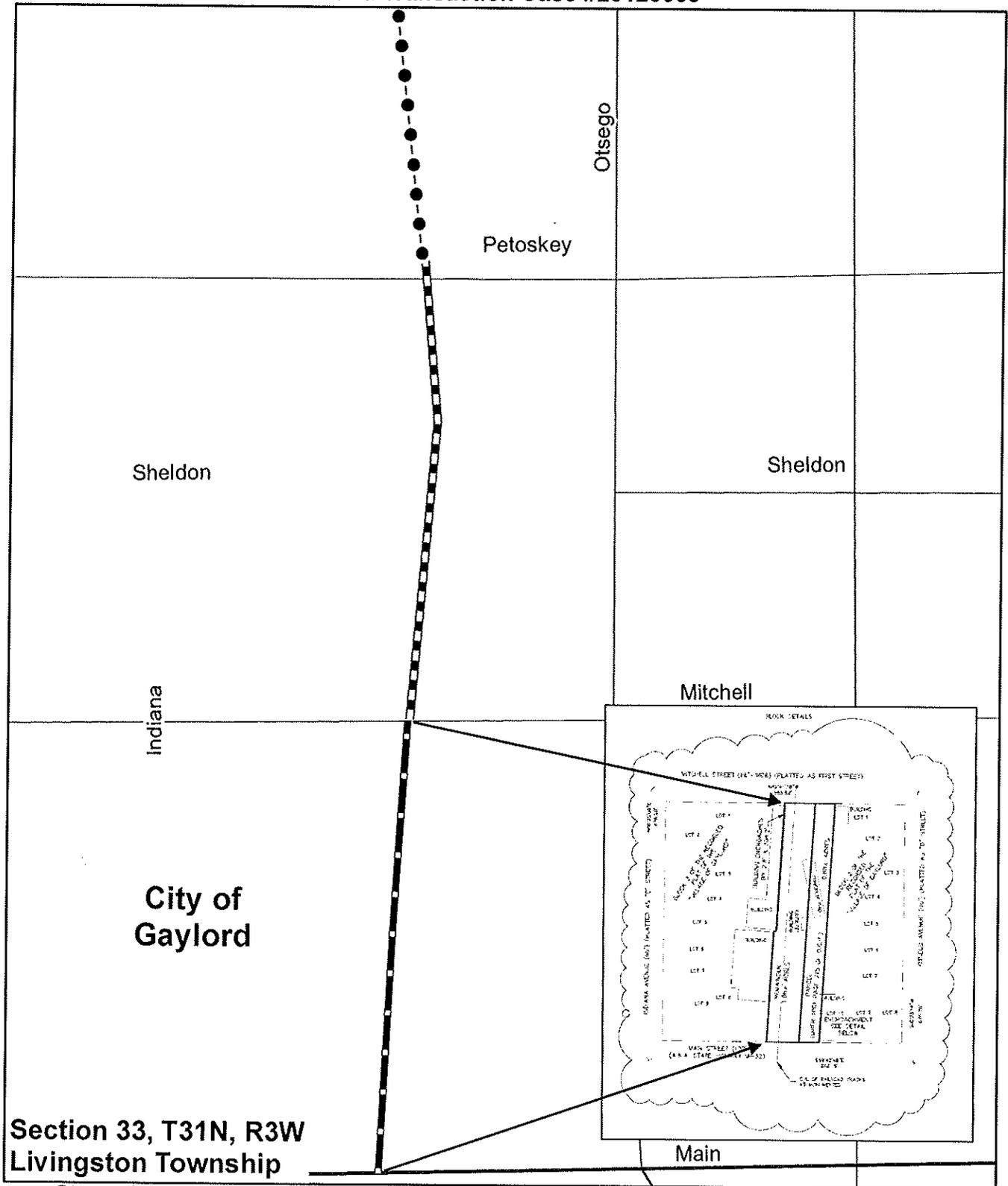
Mark H. Hoffman  
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendations

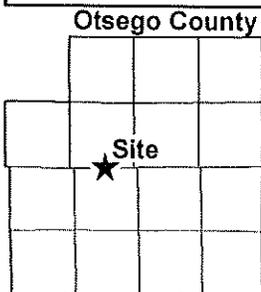
Keith Creagh  
Director

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Date Approved

**STATE TRAIL ACQUISITION**  
**North Central State Trail Trailhead and Connection -- Otsego County**  
**Land Transaction Case #20120005**



**Section 33, T31N, R3W**  
**Livingston Township**



-  Land Offered to DNR from Lake State Railway -- approx. 1.71 acres
-  Easement Offered to DNR from Lake State Railway -- approx. 760' in length
-  Existing Easement for North Central State Trail

-  State Land
-  Private Land



DNR -- Finance & Operations Division  
 Real Estate Services Section  
 08/12/2014

