

**From:** Keough, Shawn  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Docket #10-I-2 Support for Proposed Incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 2:49:18 PM  
**Attachments:**

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Hello State Boundary Commission and Mr. O'Brien,

As the Village of Dexter President, I spoke in STRONG SUPPORT of the proposed incorporation of the Village of Dexter on behalf of the entire community at the public hearing on January 17<sup>th</sup> at the Dexter District Public Library. I was very pleased that all of the comments provided on that day were positive and in SUPPORT of our effort as well.

I wanted to submit this email to reaffirm, that as a 10 year resident in the Village of Dexter, I personally SUPPORT the proposed incorporation of the Village of Dexter. I am proud of the full range of services that are provided by the Village to my family, my neighbors and the many families and businesses that live, exist and/or operate in the Village today. We are a very organized and pro-active community and we are ready to take the step toward Cityhood for all the reasons that were mentioned in the Village's petition. I ask that you accept the proposed alternate boundary, as it creates a boundary that is harmonious and acceptable with our neighboring community, Webster Township, as well as the property owners within the proposed boundary.

We are a self-sufficient municipality that is ready to take the step to Cityhood. We are fully prepared to take on the challenges of running our own elections and assessing, which are the only two services that Township's do for the Village today and that is only because those services are mandated by the State as Township responsibilities. I know that we will excel at providing these two services if we become a City.

Please accept this email in full SUPPORT for the incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Shawn W. Keough

[REDACTED]

Dexter, Michigan 48130

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**From:** tammy.james [REDACTED]  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** docket #10-I-2  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 1:42:41 PM  
**Attachments:**

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re: Village of Dexter (docket #10-I-2)

I am a supporter for the incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City. Our family is now trapped an area where we are considered part of the village and also part of Webster Township. This never made sense to me and I'll be very grateful if there is a change.

It is inconvenient and doesn't make sense that we pay property taxes to that township. I'd much rather pay the taxes to the village (or city), which we are within walking distance of. The village is growing and we need to move forward. I'm not afraid that the village will ever lose the feel of small town. The town is still and will always be there.

We really should be recongnized and be able to take advantage of the benefits of becoming a city.

Thank you -  
Tammy James  
Dexter, Michigan

**From:** Krista McDonnough  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** City of Dexter  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 1:28:56 PM  
**Attachments:**

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I strongly support Dexter becoming a city and just wanted to make my opinion known.

Thank you.

Teacher and resident of Dexter,

Krista McDonnough

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\* Please note new email address\*

Krista K. McDonnough

English Instructor

Dexter High School

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Jim Stker  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: Docket #10-I-2  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 12:22:49 PM  
**Attachments:**

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I am a village resident and I support the incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City.

Charles Dunham  


**From:** Nancy Fisher  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Re: Docket #10-I-2  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 12:17:54 PM  
**Attachments:**

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I am a village resident and I support incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City.

Annette M. Coy



**From:** John Coy  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** re: Docket #10-I-2 Village of Dexter  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 11:26:51 AM  
**Attachments:**

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I am a village resident and support the incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City.

Thank you.

**E. John Coy, Jr.**  
President & CEO  
Coy Enterprises, Inc.  
d/b/a/ Fran Coy's Salon & Spa  
734-665-1388

**From:** Chrissy Keough  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Docket #10-I-2  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:08:42 AM  
**Attachments:**

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Hello-

I am writing to let you know that I am in favor of the proposed change to cityhood in Dexter.

I believe that this will only benefit the community.

Thank you,  
Christine Keough  
  
Dexter, MI 48130

**From:** Ranee calley  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Dexter City Council  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 9:01:13 AM  
**Attachments:**

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To whom this may concern:

There are 2 voters living in household of 8248 Bridgeway Dr. Dexter, MI 48130. The two of us are in Agreement to have Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City, Washtenaw County.

Ranee Seal  
Paul Calley

**From:** Lisa Paull  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Village of Dexter becoming a city  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 8:18:11 AM  
**Attachments:**

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I believe it is time for Dexter to become its own city. There's been a huge explosion in Dexter's population over the past 10 years, and there are more than enough residents to govern themselves. Furthermore, our current tax structures are so complex (we pay 3 different taxes) that only long time resident can figure them out!. Nor is anyone sure the money collected is going to Dexter, not Webster township or elsewhere. We need to see to our own taxes to pay for Dexter services only. I believe we would be able to oversee how money was spent in a better, more timely manner than at present.

**From:** Beth Allen  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Docket #10-1-2  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2012 12:05:36 AM  
**Attachments:**

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I totally support the incorporation of the village of Dexter as a Home Rule City!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Comcast  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Docket #10-I-2  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 11:59:40 PM  
**Attachments:**

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In regard to docket #10-I-2, please be advised that I support the incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City.

David L Allen

[REDACTED]

Dexter, Mi 48130

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** Ronald Flowers  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Dexter becoming a City  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 10:36:39 PM  
**Attachments:**

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I support the Village of Dexter becoming a city. The benefits far out way the draw backs!

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Ronald D. Flowers, Ed.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Director of K-12 and HE General Internships  
Department of Leadership & Counseling  
Eastern Michigan University  
John W. Porter Bldg. Suite 304  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
O- 734-487-0255  
F- 734-487-4608  
Office Hours: T-W-R 1-5  
(Also by appointment)

**From:** Joe Semifero  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Village of Dexter - Proposed Incorporation as Home Rule City  
- Docket #10-I-2  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 9:45:12 PM  
**Attachments:**

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I SUPPORT the proposed incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City.

I support the incorporation for a number of reasons, including: avoiding paying taxes to Webster Township for which we receive only a fraction of the value of taxes paid back in services and as we are intentionally excluded from receiving the benefits of our taxes; because the Village currently does almost every thing a city does (except assessing and elections); and to avoid difficulties in elections and votes of the people in the Village living in Webster Township not being counted correctly in elections.

Webster Township collects taxes from Webster residents in the Village which go to directly support police and fire services in the Township. These services are already paid by the Village. Webster could have excluded the portion of Webster Township as Scio Township excluded the Village from their millage for public safety, but they did not, knowing full well we would not receive any benefits from paying these taxes. Also, Webster Township has an Open Spaces / Land Preservation millage which they have refused to spend on any land within the Village, even though the Webster Township residents pay taxes into this fund and the land in the Village is in the Township as well. This has been explicitly stated by Webster Township officials in public meetings that they will not spend tax dollars in these areas. Again, they could have excluded the areas of the Village in the collection of these taxes but chose not to do this. This is unfair at its core. The Webster Township residents in the Village are subsidizing the police, fire, and land preservation of the rest of the township while being denied those same benefits. It is clear the Township does not consider Village residents as part of the township, but only as part of the Village.

The Village of Dexter does everything a city does except for assessing and elections, and until a few years ago we ran our own elections. We provide police, fire, water, sewer, street maintenance including snow removal, sidewalks in almost all areas, parks, arts, and other benefits to residents. We can provide for our own elections and assessing at a fraction of the taxes we currently pay to Webster

Township and Scio Township.

Lastly, in the past two elections since Webster has taken over managing the Village elections as part of the November election, there has been difficulty in voting for the residents of the Village that are in Webster Township. Webster Township has not always given the correct ballots to residents when they vote, resulting in those residents not being able to vote for Village elections. I know this because I was given the wrong ballot at Webster Township in 2008 during the election. I spoke to many of my neighbors who also said they had not seen the Village officials listed on the ballot they received. I narrowly avoided being disenfranchised and it appears some of my neighbors were denied their right to vote in the election of Village officials.

For these reasons and more, I support the PROPOSED incorporation of the Village of Dexter as a Home Rule City.

Joseph R. Semifero

[REDACTED]

Dexter, MI 48130

**From:** Ed Esch  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Dexter to be City  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 9:07:50 PM  
**Attachments:**

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To whom it may concern,

I'm sending this email to show my Total Support of the Village of Dexter becoming a City.

I live at [REDACTED], Dexter MI. My family has lived in the Westridge sub. for 13 years

and want the advantages of being a City for cost reasons and for taking away the separation of paying 2 separate taxes for township and village. This is all regarding docket #10-I-2.

Again I'm in total favor of Dexter becoming a City.

Thanks,

Ed Esch

Sent from my iPad

**From:** richard bellas  
**To:** O'Brien, Kevin M (LARA);  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Village of Dexter Incorporation Docket #10-I-2  
**Date:** Monday, February 06, 2012 11:22:31 AM  
**Attachments:**

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To Whom It May Concern at the State Boundary Commission:

Concerning Docket #10-I-2 and the incorporation of the Village of Dexter we are fully in support of this proposal. The reasons for incorporation are valid and the boundary is sufficient. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Richard and Rebekah Bellas

  
Dexter, MI 48130

January 30, 2012

State Boundary Commission  
Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory affairs  
P.O. Box 30245  
Lansing, MI 48909

**DOCKET #10-I-2**  
**RE: SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED INCORPORATION**

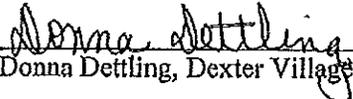
I am the Manager for the Village of Dexter and I've held that position since 2001. When I interviewed for this position in 2000, it was shared with me that there was a desire by the Village to pursue City Status. I had experience working with my prior community on their charter as well as revisions to that charter. The selection team felt that experience would be helpful in my role as Village Manager, as the Village moved through the incorporation process.

In 2006 Council approved exploration of becoming a City and I was appointed as the staff liaison to the Citizens Advisory Committee, "City Study Committee". We explored the advantages and disadvantages of incorporating the Village of Dexter into a Home Rule City. The final report dated March 7, 2007 from the City Study Committee recommended to Village Council that the time was right to pursue City status, and that the Village Council should take the next step toward incorporation. More than four years later on January 17, 2012 a public hearing on the proposed incorporation of the Village of Dexter was held in the Village of Dexter. I attended this hearing and felt a written history of my involvement would be valuable in this review.

During my 11 years with the Village, I have had many interactions with residents who have found the overlapping government confusing and, in their words, unnecessary. Residents typically share that they do not understand why they got a tax bill from the Village and one from the Township. They want to understand what they're paying for and what value they received from the tax dollars sent to each unit of government. When our residents ask about voting or assessing they are directed to the Township, which requires another phone call and another interaction with a separate government agency. The only explanation I can give them is that the Township's are providing the services they are statutorily required to, due to Dexter's status as a Village.

I believe it is in the best interest of the Village to become a City. Dexter is already providing every service a city would typically provide, with the exception of those required to be performed by the Township. Dexter will not have any trouble taking on elections and assessing. I believe incorporation will help me and my staff better serve the community, by removing an unnecessary level of government.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna Dettling, Dexter Village Manager