

APPENDIX B

RESOLUTIONS

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Park Township Board of Trustees | July 14, 2004 |
| 2. Three Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce | July 16, 2004 |
| 3. City of Three Rivers | July 20, 2004 |
| 4. Village of Schoolcraft | August 4, 2004 |
| 5. Township of Mottville | August 12, 2004 |
| 6. Florence Township | August 16, 2004 |
| 7. Village of White Pigeon | August 19, 2004 |
| 8. Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce | August 25, 2004 |
| 9. St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners | September 7, 2004 |
| 10. Lockport Township | September 13, 2004 |
| 11. White Pigeon Township | March 1, 2005 |
| 12. Flowerfield Township Board | March 7, 2005 |
| 13. Constantine Village Council | March 21, 2005 |
| 14. St. Joseph County, Michigan State
University Extension | March 29, 2005 |
| 15. Village of Constantine | April 5, 2005 |
| 16. Constantine Village Council | May 7, 2007 |
| 17. Constantine Village Council | May 21, 2007 |
| 18. City of Three Rivers | December 18, 2007 |

Park Township Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting July 14, 2004

The regular meeting of the Park Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with members Lee Fassett, Pat Henderson, Richard Ohlin, Cindy Fenwick and Ron Carpenter in attendance for the roll call. No one absent.

The meeting agenda was amended to include a review of a proposed Water Supply Ordinance and a discussion regarding Moorepark Cemetery.

Following a review of the June 9 meeting minutes Henderson moved and Fenwick supported a motion to approve them as presented. Motion carried.

Carpenter moved and Henderson supported a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented by treasurer Fenwick. Motion carried.

Visitor Stacy Landis inquired about building a house on Lot 32 of Dobrowolski Lane. He indicated there was an existing pole building only 20 feet from the road.

Nancy Johnson of Parkville inquired if there had been any further progress in obtaining a bid to have surrounding property surveyed to determine property boundaries.

Dickie Roberts of Dobrowolski Lane reported the house near his home that had been a problem for several years had recently been condemned by the Health Department and thanked the township board of their help with the issue.

Assessor Jaime Hutson he was going to reassess all property in the township over the next two years to make sure assessments were current.

Following a review of the attached resolution regarding US 131, Ohlin moved and Carpenter supported a motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried. Resolution adopted.

Under old business Supervisor Ohlin reported the house on Dobrowolski lane had been vacated and condemned by the Health Department.

Henderson reported she had received two bids for trash removal at Moorepark Cemetery. One from Herb Nash for \$225 per load removed and one from Jody Norton for \$140 per load. Fassett moved and Ohlin supported a motion to accept the lower bid and to proceed with the project. Motion carried.

Henderson also reported she had quotes for signage stating cemetery rules ranging from \$172 for a 24X36 inch sign to \$250 for a 3X6 foot size. The issue was tabled for now. It was also noted that we need a written agreement between the township and Jim Whitehead for the access he has agreed to give the township and for the fencing the township has agreed to provide him to allow tree removal at the cemetery while maintaining security for his livestock.

Following a review of a proposed water ordinance there was consensus to table the issue until the next regular meeting to allow time for ample review.

Under board reports Carpenter reported the assistant at the EDC office was leaving and the board had advertised for a replacement. Ohlin reported the intergovernmental group discussed the proposed of the Secretary of State office to Sturgis. Ohlin also reported the FOIA issue continues at the Fire Department. He also reported there would be an open house at the fire department July 24, 2004.

Henderson reported the Hospital Board was moving ahead with renovation of the front entrance of the hospital. She also reported they were looking for a new mid wife to replace the one who was moving.

Carpenter pointed out the need to move the August meeting to another date as three board members were scheduled to be out of town on the regular meeting night. It was agreed to meet August 4, 2004 and the clerk was instructed to advertise the change.

Following a review of the bills Henderson moved and Fenwick supported a motion to pay them as presented. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board Fassett moved and Carpenter supported a motion to adjourn at 8:50 PM. Respectfully submitted by Ron Carpenter, Clerk of Park Township.

Election Commission Meeting
July 14, 2004

Clerk Carpenter called the Election Commission to order at 9:00 PM with members Richard Ohlin, Cindy Fenwick and Ron Carpenter in attendance. Ohlin moved and Fenwick supported a motion to use the list of election inspectors provided by Carpenter. Those were Jan Whitehead, Chairperson, Jane Eicholtz, Sandra Farnsworth, Rebecca Myers and Carol Harden. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

PARK TOWNSHIP
Resolution of the (Insert Local Unit Name)
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
in Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited-access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

PARK TOWNSHIP

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by (Insert Local Unit Name) that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

Resolution of the
Board of Directors of the Three Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
in Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited-access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Board of Directors of the Three Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

Adopted: July 16, 2004 Attest: *Russ C. Snook*
Secretary, Three Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce

Resolution 43-04

**Resolution of the City of Three Rivers
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
in Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties**

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited-access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Three Rivers that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

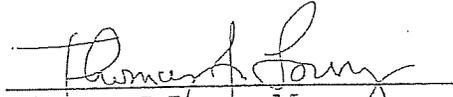
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

Resolution 43-04
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
July 20, 2004

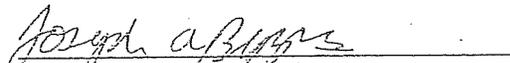
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.


Thomas J. Lowry, Mayor

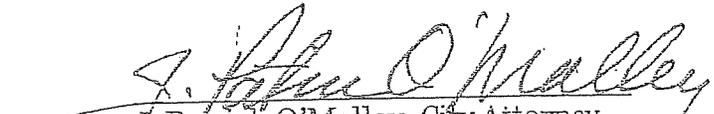
ATTEST:


Barbara Redford, City Clerk

REVIEWED FOR ADMINISTRATION:


Joseph A. Bippus, City Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


J. Patrick O'Malley, City Attorney

Village of Schoolcraft

Resolution Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway in Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited-access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of the Village of Schoolcraft that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council supports the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council recognizes that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council requests that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council requests that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

Trustee Mullin moved, supported by Trustee Dalley, to adopt this resolution. The motion was approved by a roll-call vote of 6-0.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Absences: 1

Clerk's Certificate

I, Sherry L. Gilchrist, Village Clerk of the Village of Schoolcraft, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Village Council during regular session of the Council and in accordance with all provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

Sherry L. Gilchrist
Sherry L. Gilchrist

8-4-04
Date

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOTTVILLE
SUPPORTING US 131 AS A LIMITED ACCESS FREEWAY
IN KALAMAZOO AND ST JOSEPH COUNTIES

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US 131 Planning Commission (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US 131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US 131 Master Plan Committee (US 131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US 131 as a limited access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and the safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US 131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US 131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US 131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mottville Township that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US 131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US 131 as a limited access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US 131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US 131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

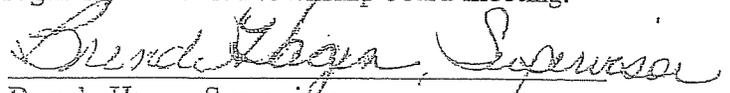
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US 131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and the citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individuals needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US 131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US 131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County , and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US 131 as a limited access freeway in St. Joseph County.

Resolution adopted, 4 ayes, 1 nay

Resolution adopted August 12, 2004, at a regularly scheduled township board meeting.


Brenda Hagen, Supervisor

Resolution of the Florence Township
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
in Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited-access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Florence Township that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

Voting Aye after the motion was made by Ben Russell, seconded by Janis Jones: Dennis Bontrager, Tom Young, Connie Steffel, Janis Jones and Ben Russell. 8/16/04.

VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON

P. O. Box 621
118 S Kalamazoo St.
White Pigeon, MI 49099-0621

Telephone: 269-483-7044

Fax: 269-483-2544

8-19-04

Resolution of the Village of White Pigeon
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
In Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village of White Pigeon that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana State Boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

White Pigeon Village Council,
Sue Bontrager, Village Clerk

CADILLAC AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

222 LAKE STREET • CADILLAC, MI 49601

(231) 775-9776 • FAX (231) 775-1440

www.cadillac.org

August 25, 2004

Sally Carpenter
St. Joseph County/MSU Extension
612 E. Main Street
Centerville, MI 49032

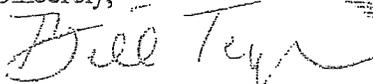
Dear Ms. Carpenter:

The purpose of this communication is to forward a letter of support relating to the ongoing efforts to construct a US 131 Limited-Access Freeway in both Kalamazoo and St. Joseph counties. The Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce fully supports the actions and consensus approach of both the Schoolcraft Area US 131 Planning Committee and the St. Joseph County US 131 Master Plan Committee. Our belief is that a collaborative approach that incorporates community involvement, education and multi government participation is not only desirable, but also is attainable in the pursuit of planning a future US 131 bypass. We know from our own experiences in the Cadillac area the importance of a coalition approach.

We strongly believe a limited access freeway from the Indiana/Michigan state line with connection to the existing US 131 freeway benefits all of west and northwest Michigan as a major transportation route for commerce and tourism. We also know from our own involvement with a highway project of similar scope, that a limited access freeway will enhance quality of life aspects regionally and in turn create safer travel options for both residents and travelers.

In conclusion, we strongly support the ongoing efforts to construct a limited access freeway in Kalamazoo and Schoolcraft counties. We believe the bypass will assist in keeping Michigan economically competitive with states that have continuous transportation routes and will have numerous tangible economic benefits to Michigan.

Sincerely,


Bill Tencza
President
Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce


Chris Huckle
Executive Director
Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce


John Buckley, Jr.
Chairman, Government Affairs Committee
Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce



RESOLUTION NO. 22-2004.
RESOLUTION OF THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SUPPORTING US-131 AS A LIMITED-ACCESS FREEWAY
IN KALAMAZOO AND ST. JOSEPH COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited-access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS, both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS
COUNTY OF ST. JOSEPH)

I, PATTIE S. BENDER, Clerk of the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners and Clerk of the County of St. Joseph, do hereby certify that the above Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board on September 7, 2004.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Court at Centreville, Michigan, this 13th day of September 2004.


Pattie S. Bender, Clerk

COPY

LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING US-131 AS A LIMITED ACCESS FREEWAY
IN KALAMAZOO AND ST. JOSEPH COUNTIES

RESOLUTION # 07-2004

ADOPTED: September 13, 2004

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited-access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of ^{LIFE} ~~life~~, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Members of the Lockport Township Board that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

Results of Roll Call:

D. Bloom – Yes

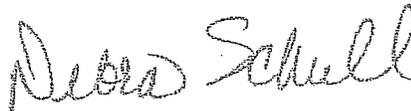
W. Timm – Yes

P. Bungert – Yes

D. Schull – Yes

M. Barth – Yes

The above Resolution passed on September 13, 2004.



Debra Schull, Clerk
Lockport Township
56651 Buckhorn Rd.
Three Rivers, MI 49093

Resolution of the White Pigeon Township
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
In Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties

2-05

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by White Pigeon Township that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of the US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

Resolution adopted, Phillips, Grog, August, Knob, Ayers
aye, Strawser nay Ray

Resolution adopted 3-1-05, at a regularly scheduled township board meeting.

Lois K. Phillips

Resolution of the *Flowerfield Township Board*
Supporting US-131 as a Limited-Access Freeway
In Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties

WHEREAS the Schoolcraft Area US-131 Planning Committee (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build consensus and to plan for a future US-131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway; and

WHEREAS the St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee (US-131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build consensus and to plan for the future of US-131 as a limited access freeway throughout St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region; and

WHEREAS the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US-131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft; and

WHEREAS the goals of the US-131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US-131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by *Flowerfield Sup* that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the reconstruction of US-131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US-131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US-131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US-131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US-131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of the US-131 as a limited-access freeway in St. Joseph County.

*Hereby Resolved by Carroll Parmeter, seconded by Sally Hackenberg with a roll call vote as follows:
Ron Shaver yes, Paul Williams yes, Sally yes, Pam Atkins yes + Carroll - yes. meeting held March 7, 2005 at 7:00pm*

RESOLUTION OF THE CONSTANTINE VILLAGE COUNCIL
SUPPORTING US 131 AS A LIMITED ACCESS FREEWAY IN KALAMAZOO AND ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

Whereas, the Schoolcraft Area US 131 Planning Commission (SAUPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 2002 to build a consensus and to plan for a future US 131 bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft as a limited-access freeway, and

Whereas, the St. Joseph County US 131 Master Plan Committee (US 131 MPC) and its member municipalities have been working since 1994 to build a consensus and to plan for the future of US 131 as a limited access freeway throughout St. Joseph County, and

Whereas, both committees believe that the creation of a limited-access freeway will have significant benefits to the economy, quality of life, and safety of residents and travelers throughout the region, and

Whereas, the goals of the SAUPC include the furthering of community input regarding the future of US 131 in southern Kalamazoo County and the promotion of the needed bypass of the Village of Schoolcraft, and

Whereas, the goals of the US 131 MPC include the promotion of the usage of the current US 131 footprint as much as possible and the construction of frequent interchanges and overpasses to avoid the unnecessary division of the impacted communities, and

Whereas the Village of Constantine has the responsibility to participate in the economic vitality of the area,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Constantine Village Council that we support the goal of the SAUPC and the US 131 MPC, that goal being the pursuit of the construction of US 131 as a limited-access freeway from the terminus of the current freeway at the southern limits of the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary, and

Be It Further Resolved that we support the joint efforts of the SAUPC and the US 131 MPC in forming an alliance to increase the desirability and viability of the US 131 project to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), and

Be It Further Resolved that we recognize that the SAUPC and the US 131 MPC will meet both jointly and separately, to promote both the goals of the entire region, and the individual needs of the municipalities and citizens represented by each group, and

Be It Further Resolved that we request that MDOT respect the individual needs and preferences of each group and the communities it represents, while recognizing the collaborative efforts of both groups in promoting the improvement of US 131 throughout Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties, and

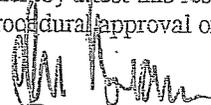
Be It Further Resolved that we request that MDOT restore to a level of priority the US 131 bypass project in Kalamazoo County, and that MDOT maintain and enhance the priority of the US 131 as a limited-access highway in St. Joseph County, and

Be It Further Resolved that the existing US 131 be designated as a business route in the Village of Constantine and the bridge over the St. Joseph River be the financial responsibility of the State of Michigan.

Resolution Adopted with Roll Call Vote of Weis, Moyer, Nelson, Brewer, Witek Ayes; Chiddister, Mathers Nays.

Resolution adopted March 21, 2005.

I hereby attest this resolution was adopted by the Constantine Village Council on March 21, 2005 and is subject to procedural approval of the March 21, 2005 Meeting Minutes.


Don Beavers
Constantine Village Manager



ST. JOSEPH COUNTY
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

U.S. Department of Agriculture
and Counties Cooperating
Courthouse Annex II
612 E. Main Street
Centreville, MI 49032

Ag (269) 467-5511
4-H (269) 467-5521
Home Ec (269) 467-5522
Resource Recovery (269) 467-5540
Building Strong Families (269) 467-5635
FAX (269) 467-5641
TT (269) 467-5501

Michigan Department of Transportation
US 131 Public Hearing March 29, 2005
Three Rivers, Michigan

Enclosed you will find Resolutions from the following units of Government in St. Joseph County and Kalamazoo County supporting US 131 Limited-Access Freeway from the Indiana State Line to the southern limit of the city of Portage. This area includes the MDOT US-131 Improvement Study area.

Village of Constantine, Florence Township, Flowerfield Township, Lockport Township, Mottville Township, Park Township, City of Three Rivers, Three Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce, St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners, Village of White Pigeon, White Pigeon Township, Village of Schoolcraft and a letter of support from the Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce.

The St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee will retain a copy of each resolution listed above.

The St. Joseph County US-131 Master Plan Committee requests that the resolutions attached are part of the record for the March 29, 2005 public hearing.

Sincerely,

Sally J. Carpenter
Facilitator
MSU Extension
612 E. Main Street
Centreville, MI 49032

SJC/lt
Attachments: Resolutions

115 White Pigeon Street
CONSTANTINE, MI
49042-1098
Phone 269-435-2085

E-mail: villageofconstantine@voyager.net



*A Friendly Community on the Banks of
the Historic St. Joseph River*

April 5, 2005

Bob Parsons
Public Hearings Officer
Michigan Department of Transportation
425 W. Ottawa St., P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, MI. 48909

RE: US 131 Improvement Study

Dear Mr. Parsons:

The Village of Constantine supports the continued goal of constructing a limited access highway from the City of Portage to the Indiana state boundary. Please find attached a copy of the resolution as adopted by the Village Council.

With the Village having a strong commitment to being a participant in the economic development of southwest Michigan, the existing US 131 route is requested to be designated a business route, be it either a spur or loop. A business route will: 1) Guarantee proper road maintenance to meet the impact of 'over the road' truck traffic whose destination is Constantine. The manufacturing segment of our community, whose economic influences are felt throughout the entire region, has voiced the necessity for continued reliable access for their raw material and product delivery transportation needs. 2) Help promote the historically designated downtown to destination and local traffic by having an identified route number. 3). Assist in guaranteeing proper financial support and infrastructure care for the bridge over the St. Joseph River, by maintaining classification within federal and state road programs. Even after a freeway is built, the structure will remain a vital link in the region's surface transportation system.

The Village encourages MDOT to select the freeway alternative that best provides access to a business route through Constantine.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Beavers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "D".

Don Beavers
Village Manager

MEMORANDUM OF US-131 BYPASS MOTION

To: Constantine Village Council

From: Gary Mathers

Date: May 7, 2007

Motion:

I make a motion that the Constantine Village Council votes NO when asked to show support for any of the existing US-131 bypass options, including PA-5, currently being offered by Michigan Department of Transportation. Furthermore, if this motion is passed and since the Council is not voting against the concept of a bypass with this motion, the Council representative is requested to present or read this motion, including the comments below, in its entirety at the May 30, 2007 MDOT hearing. The Village Clerk is also requested to forward copies of this memorandum and motion to Senator Cameron Brown, Representative Rick Shaffer, and the Director of Michigan Department of Transportation.

Observations:

- Excessive vehicular traffic, primarily truck traffic, goes through Constantine almost every day. This traffic currently poses a safety hazard to pedestrians, including school-age children, attempting to cross US-131. Additionally, this traffic has, in part, contributed to the deterioration of the historic buildings within the community.
- A US-131 bypass of Constantine would alleviate vehicle congestion within the community. A limited-access 4-lane expressway, including a bypass of Constantine, was proposed as an upgrade to the existing 131. This proposal, with more lanes and higher speed limits, also had the potential to attract economic development from the IN/MI state line to points north within the State of Michigan.
- A great deal of support and lobbying for the road improvement came from our elected state officials, Senator Cameron Brown and Representative Rick Shaffer. The Village Council is appreciative of their efforts and continued backing after the road improvement was temporarily killed.
- The highway plans for US-131 have since been reopened but downgraded so that now the change includes only a limited access 2-lane bypass around Constantine. While some may see a 2-lane bypass as good for Constantine, the Village Council does not agree with the premise that something is better than nothing.

Concerns:

- The limited access 2-lane bypass has all of the problems associated with a 4-lane bypass but brings none of the advantages of a larger highway such as potential for economic development.

- **The large number of cul-de-sacs being proposed** – A response time hazard is being created. With limited access, emergency services (ambulance, fire, police) will have slower response times. This says nothing of the inconvenience for the residents. Of interest, many municipalities north of Constantine have very little restricted access to 131 with many crossroads, traffic lights, stop signs, and railroad crossings.
- **Added expense to village residents** – Under current plans, there is no provision for the state to provide continued maintenance of the bridge leading into the village or the existing 131 road. This could be a very large burden to the residents. If the state continues to suffer economically and reduces revenue sharing to the village, this burden becomes even greater. Our citizens should not have to pay higher taxes for the bridge and highway being vacated.
- **Village Isolation** – The proposed bypass and limited access effectively isolates Constantine. Until we create a reason for travelers to visit our town, few people will exit and come through our village. This is bad for our current service industries including gas stations and restaurants. One business owner at the public meeting stated that ¾ of her business is from out of town.
- **Opposite side of village from our industrial park** – The proposed bypass is on the west side of Constantine, the exact opposite side from our industrial base. Trucks will still have to go through or around Constantine to reach our industry. This has the inherent disadvantages of delivery time delays, safety issues for school children and other pedestrians, and wear and tear on village roads not necessarily built for the volume and weight of truck traffic.
- **Later expansion of highway not considered** – MDOT has stated that it will not be possible to add to the 2-lane bypass at a later date, thus converting it into the more desirable, divided 4-lane road. The corridor anticipated to be purchased for the 2-lanes is not wide enough to permit later expansion to a divided 4-lane road. What we get now is what we will have in the future.
- **Insignificance of bypass to state** – Much of the support for the bypass is apparently coming from points north. It is felt that a bypass of Constantine opens up the possibility for economic development. While this may be the case with a high speed expressway, a simple 2-lane bypass does not appear to offer this advantage. The length of the bypass is relatively small in comparison to the overall length of US-131. Two lanes will not offer increased speed limits nor reduce traffic congestion. With limited access and without the lower speeds within our village, we agree that traffic will move a little faster. However, the mere minutes being saved by traffic do not seem to be a significant enough advantage for northern business to warrant the other problems for our residents that are associated with only 2 lanes.
- **Apparent reduction in farm land** – As the corn seed capital of the world and with a great deal of our local industry farm-related, any reduction in acres dedicated to farmland is a concern to Constantine. This needs to be addressed in any future environmental study.
- **Fluctuation in property values** – While this is currently hard to measure or to project, it is reasonable that some township residents will experience lower property values as a result of the proposed bypass while other property owners will experience a windfall.
- **Other means to reduce truck traffic** – There have been other solutions offered to get trucks out of Constantine. This list includes using existing roads such as Routes 60, 40, and the CR 17

extension near Elkhart to re-route truck traffic. A truck bypass of Constantine has been proposed by a Ball State University study group. There has been suggestion that a weigh station between White Pigeon and Constantine could reduce truck traffic.

This list of concerns is presented to explain why some Village Council members do not support the bypass as currently proposed. It is true that some people at the open meeting expressed their desire that the bypass be built as proposed. However, it was noticeable that several of these people preferred a 4-lane bypass but were willing to accept the 2-lane offering as "better than nothing". The Constantine Township Supervisor stated that a 4-lane highway is needed to expand business and that the number of proposed cul-de-sacs is disappointing. A president of a business located in the village industrial park preferred an east-side bypass but said the current plan is a start. Another citizen said that we need a limited-access freeway but the current plan is better than doing nothing.

It is our opinion that doing something is not necessarily better than doing nothing. It is our opinion that accepting this proposal will not be a "start" but rather an "end result". There will not be enough land to eventually have the 4-lane divided expressway. With the proposed 2-lane bypass, the village is being asked to accept many of the disadvantages of a bypass but without any of the positives that are associated with a 4-lane expressway including faster travel and other economic benefits. In order to make a two-lane bypass more palatable for our village, we propose the following adjustments to the existing proposal:

Adjustments:

1. Declare the existing US-131 into and through Constantine to be Business Route 131 without the proposed cul-de-sacs. It is our impression that by so designating BR-131, the bridge and current road through town will still be maintained by the State of Michigan. No new local taxes will be incurred by our residents.
2. Construct a new road designed to handle the volume and weight of truck traffic from the bypass to our industrial park on the east side of town. The road should be planned with speed of delivery and safety uppermost in mind.
3. The 2-lane bypass should have fewer cul-de-sacs and not be a limited access road. Optionally, overpasses could replace cul-de-sacs. All citizens, village and township, need the availability of emergency services as quickly as possible.
4. There needs to be more detailed discussion of the at-grade intersections on the proposed bypass as they pertain to safety issues.
5. Purchase sufficient right-of-way so that the road can eventually be expanded into a 4-lane divided highway as traffic dictates.

Thank you.

May 21st 2007

RESOLUTION

We, The Duly Elected Members of the Constantine Village Council, offer this Resolution in order to summarize our recent position on the proposed US 131 by-pass.

The Constantine Village Council wishes to go on record as supporting the Proposed US 131 by-pass around the Village of Constantine, with, and only with, the following improvements:

1. Declare the existing US 131 into and through Constantine, to be Business Route US 131, without the proposed cul de sacs on the North and South ends of the existing roadway.
2. That the State of Michigan agrees that the existing US 131 into and through Constantine, as well as the existing bridge crossing the St. Joseph River, remains the property of the State of Michigan, and therefore continues maintenance to both the road and the bridge.
3. That the State of Michigan construct a road, suitable for heavy truck traffic, from the proposed by pass to and from the manufacturing area on the east side of the Village, with regard to pedestrian safety concerns within the Village and minimal routing through the Village's residential sector.
4. That the State of Michigan purchase enough right of way property to eventually construct a 4 lane divided expressway.
5. That any of the at-grade intersections with this by pass include adequate safety provisions that will be acceptable to the Village.
6. That the State review all proposed road closures and cul de sac's with the Village Council for our input.

City of Three Rivers, Michigan

Resolution to Michigan Department of Transportation regarding US-131
Improvements as Outlines in the May 1, 2007 Five-year Plan.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has spent in excess of four million dollars studying and planning US-131 improvements; and

WHEREAS, Improvements were proposed to extend north to Wilbur Road; and

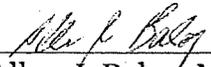
WHEREAS, the City of Three Rivers and Township of Fabius did both pass resolutions requesting that the improvements be made at the same footprint as in proposed PA-5; and

WHEREAS, most recent discussions between Fabius Township, Three Rivers City, and MDOT included the rebuild of the US-131 / M-60 intersection.

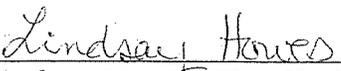
WHEREAS, the Five-year Plan now under consideration does not show any improvements between the two municipalities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Three Rivers City Commission and the Fabius Township Board do jointly request that the Five-year Plan include the extension of the improvements northward to the original planning limits at Wilbur Road.

This Resolution was approved and adopted this 18th day of December, 2007.

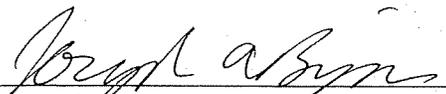

Allen J. Balog, Mayor

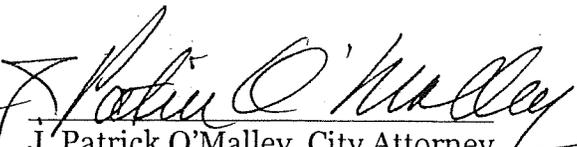
ATTEST:


Lindsay Howes, City Clerk

APPROVED FOR ADMINISTRATION:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Joseph A. Bippus, City Manager


J. Patrick O'Malley, City Attorney