



RESOLUTION

Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project – Protecting Our Community & the Great Lakes

Number 2021-04-06-2

WHEREAS, Public Act 107 of 1941 authorizes a Township to provide sewage disposal services and facilities, and

WHEREAS, the current sewer project area was previously highlighted by Michigan District Health Department No. 4 (DHD4), as a problem area for onsite sewage disposal due to a high seasonal groundwater table and very small lots, and

WHEREAS, these issues created lack of isolation for onsite sewage disposal systems and from onsite water wells, property lines and surface water and in some cases, critically undersized septic disposal systems, and

WHEREAS, an expanded sewer system would resolve these public health concerns and issues, help improve surface water quality and improve environmental conditions, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tuscarora Township Board of Trustees hereby publicly supports the ongoing Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project to protect our community, the public health and our natural resources, including the Inland Waterway and the Great Lakes.

The foregoing resolution offered by Board Member Kramer.

Second offered by Board Member Vance

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

"Aye": Balazovic, Kramer, Ridley, Rodriguez, Vance (unanimous)

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.


Dolly Rodriguez, Clerk
April 6, 2021



WAYNE A. SCHMIDT
37TH DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 30098
LANSING, MI 48909-7536

**THE SENATE
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

PHONE: (517) 373-2413
TOLL-FREE: (855) 347-8037
FAX: (517) 373-5144
sen.schmidt@senate.michigan.gov

April 6, 2021

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of the Tuscarora Township's Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project. This \$18 million project in Indian River boarders the 38-mile Inland Water which drains into Lake Huron and the Great Lakes and is necessary to protect the public health and our waters.

The Michigan District Health Department No. 4 highlighted this project as an area of concern for onsite sewage disposal due to the high seasonal groundwater table and very small lots.

In addition, many of the septic systems in the proposed area have failed or are not in compliance with local, state or federal recommendations. According to the Michigan District Health Department No. 4, these issues created a lack of isolation for onsite sewage disposal systems and from onsite water wells, property lines and surface water and in some cases, critically undersized septic disposal systems.

The community has already invested \$5.9 million in 2015 for a commercial sewer system with a modular expandable plant. Although this effort has received community support a residential system remains financially out of reach for the community. I am supportive of Tuscarora Township's efforts to secure additional funding for this project because an expanded sewer system would resolve public health concerns, help improve surface water quality, improve environmental conditions in residential areas and protect the Inland Waterway and the Great Lakes.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact my office should you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne A. Schmidt".

Wayne A. Schmidt
State Senate
37th District



107TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JOHN N. DAMOOSE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-2629
FAX: (517) 373-8429
JohnDamoose@house.mi.gov

April 5, 2021

Re: Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project

To Whom It May Concern,

Because the Great Lakes are a natural resource of vast importance to Michigan's history, and future, I support Tuscarora Township's Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project. This \$18 million project in this rural community is necessary to protect the public health, the Inland Waterway and Great Lakes.

The project area was previously highlighted by Michigan District Health Department No. 4 as a problem area for onsite sewage disposal due to a high seasonal groundwater table and very small lots. Many of the septic systems in the proposed area have failed or are not in compliance with local, state or federal recommendations and constitute a potential problem. These issues create lack of isolation for onsite sewage disposal systems and from onsite water wells, property lines and surface water and in some cases, critically undersized septic disposal systems.

The community has already made a \$5.9 million investment in a system in the commercial area which will provide the backbone for a residential expansion in environmentally sensitive areas currently zoned Protected Lake and Stream District within 1,000 feet of a body of water. This particular project in Indian River borders the 38-mile Inland Waterway which drains into Lake Huron and the Great Lakes.

I strongly support Tuscarora Township's Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project which will protect the public health, the Inland Waterway and the Great Lakes.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John N. Damoose".

John N. Damoose
State Representative
107th District
S-1486 House Office Building
(517) 373-2629



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County Building
P.O. Box 70, Room 131
Cheboygan, Michigan 49721

Tel ~ (231) 627-8858
Fax ~ (231) 627-8881
E-mail ~ ccao@cheboygancounty.net

April 5, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project

I unequivocally support Tuscarora Township's Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project. This \$18 million project will protect the public health and our natural resources, including the Inland Waterway and the Great Lakes.

The project area was previously highlighted by Michigan District Health Department No. 4 as a problem area for onsite sewage disposal due to a high seasonal groundwater table and very small lots. These issues create lack of isolation for onsite sewage disposal systems and from onsite water wells, property lines and surface water and in some cases, critically undersized septic disposal systems.

The community has already made a \$5.9 million investment in a system in the commercial area which will provide the backbone for a residential expansion in environmentally sensitive areas currently zoned by Cheboygan County as a Protected Lake and Stream District within 1,000 feet of a body of water. This particular project in the unincorporated area of Indian River in Cheboygan County borders the 38-mile Inland Waterway which drains into Lake Huron and the Great Lakes.

I therefore support Tuscarora Township's Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project which will protect the public health, the Inland Waterway and the Great Lakes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John B. Wallace".

John B. Wallace
Chairman, Cheboygan County Board of Commissioners

District 1 Mary Ellen Tryban	District 2 Richard B. Sangster Vice-Chairman	District 3 Michael Newman	District 4 Ron Williams	District 5 Roberta Matelski	District 6 John B. Wallace Chair	District 7 Steve Warfield
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426 Bay St., Petoskey, MI 49770

April 5, 2021

Robert A. Kramer, Tuscarora Township Trustee
3546 S. Straits Hwy
Indian River, MI 49749

Dear Mr. Kramer,

Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council is writing in support of the Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project. The project aligns with Goals and Objectives stated in the EGLE/EPA approved Burt Lake Watershed Management Plan. Specifically, Goal 1: Protect water quality of the Watershed's lakes and streams; Objective 1.2: Reduce nutrient inputs through maintenance or replacement of nonfunctioning septic systems. Additionally, watershed plan Septic System Implementation Step SS.2: Replace individual septic systems in communities where systems are ineffective or insufficient for given demand with community sewer systems.

Situated within the 38-mile Inland Waterway, many of the septic systems in the proposed project area have failed or are not being maintained using best management practices. The project area is in an environmentally sensitive zone, and failing septic systems could impact waters by allowing nutrient pollution. Having a sewer system available to this already crowded, compact, developed area is a definite benefit to keeping the waters clean.

Michigan District Health Department No. 4 (DHD4) noted that this is a problem area for septic systems, due to a high seasonal groundwater table and very small lots. There is not enough isolation from onsite drinking water wells, property lines, and surface water. The expanded sewer system would resolve these public health concerns. Importantly the project leverages the prior \$5.9 million commercial system, specifically the \$2.5 million plant complex investment made by the community that will be the anchor for the project.

For all of these reasons, we are writing this letter of support. Please contact me with any questions, 231-347-1181 ext. 1118 or grenetta@watershedcouncil.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grenetta Thomassey, PhD".

Grenetta Thomassey, PhD
Watershed Policy Director



P.O. Box 632
Indian River, MI 49749
(231) 238-2177

April 7, 2021

Re: Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of Burt Lake Preservation Association (BLPA) and its membership of 900+ families and businesses, we support the Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project. This project is consistent with our mission. In fact, BLPA paid for the initial study and engineering report by donating \$8,000.00 to the township.

The Burt Lake Preservation Association's goal is the preservation and improvement of Burt Lake and its watershed for quality use by future generations. To do this we will unify the lake community to confront the key issues involving the lake and its watershed. Working in cooperation with federal, state, and local government entities, educational institutions, foundations, conservancies, and other resources, the Burt Lake Preservation Association (BLPA) will contribute financial and human resources to fulfill this goal. While supporting and participating in an array of activities, we assume responsibility for the following: The vision of the Burt Lake Preservation Association is to be the leader of preservation and improvement of Burt Lake including its watershed and community.

In a letter written by District Health Department #4 to Tuscarora Township, they strongly support the municipal sewer expansion. The letter included the following statements: *"The expanded service area that encompasses the region due west of the Downtown corridor, between the Indian River to the north and the Sturgeon River to the south, is an area previously highlighted by District Health Department No. 4 (DHD4), as a problem area for onsite sewage disposal due to a high seasonal groundwater table and very small lots. These issues created lack of isolation for onsite sewage disposal systems from onsite water wells, property lines and surface water and in some cases, critically undersized sewage disposal systems. The expanded sewer system in the area mentioned above would resolve some of these public health concerns and issues, help improve surface water quality and improve environmental conditions in the residential area."*

BLPA therefore strongly supports the Tuscarora Township Septic to Sewer Expansion and Modernization Project.

Respectfully,

Jim Burke, President
Burt Lake Preservation Association

District Health Department No. 4



April 8, 2021

Robert Kramer

Tuscarora Township Trustee

3546 S. Straits Hwy.

Indian River, MI. 49749

Alpena County
100 Woods Circle
Suite 200
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 356-4507
Fax (989) 356-3529

RE: Proposed Expansion

Indian River Municipal Sewer System

Tuscarora Township

Cheboygan County, Michigan

Cheboygan County
Doris E. Reid Center
825 S. Huron St.
Suite 1
Cheboygan, MI 49721
(231) 627-8850
Fax (231) 627-9466

Dear Mr. Kramer,

As stated previously during the original planning stages of municipal sewer expansion, District Health Department #4(DHD4) offers the following:

The expanded service area that encompasses the region due West of the Downtown corridor, between the Indian River to the North and the Sturgeon River to the South, is an area previously highlighted by DHD4, as a problem area for onsite sewage disposal due to a high seasonal groundwater table and very small lots. These issues created lack of isolation for onsite sewage disposal systems from onsite water wells, property lines and surface water and in some cases, critically undersized sewage disposal systems.

The expanded sewer system in the area mentioned above would resolve some of these public health concerns and issues, help improve surface water quality and improve environmental conditions in the residential area.

DHD4 strongly supports the municipal sewer expansion in the area outlined above.

Sincerely,

Kevin Prevost R.S.

Environmental Health Director

Kyle Keller

Environmental Sanitarian

www.dhd4.org