



**Little Traverse Conservancy**  
Northern Michigan's Land Trust  
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February 6, 2009

Senator Carl Levin  
107 Cass Street Suite E  
Traverse City MI 49684

Dear Senator Levin:

The Little Traverse Conservancy works in partnership with a number of governmental and community organizations across northern Michigan to protect scenic open space, provide access to the outdoors for area residents both young and old, and safeguard the natural integrity of our land and waters.

We have been advised that the Topinabee Development Association, recognized as a 501 ( c ) 3 charity, is seeking support for a Streetscape Enhancement Plan for the community that includes provisions to control polluting runoff to Mullet Lake; enhancement of the non-motorized recreational trail linking the community to the surrounding area including our nearby nature preserve; and efforts to maintain the scenic and historic character of the community.

While this project extends well beyond the land conservation issues in which our Conservancy is directly involved, we recognize the importance of approaching community development and enhancement projects with a broad view of overall ecological thinking which reminds us that all things are connected. Accordingly, we join with our colleagues at the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, the local government and others in expressing our support for the effort and our interest in working with communities and community groups to protect the scenic beauty and natural integrity of our area while also extending opportunities for trail access to the waterways and natural areas of Michigan's North Country.

Thank you for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

*TS*

Thomas C. Bailey,  
Executive Director