



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NORTH REGION OFFICE

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

KIRK T. STEUDLE
DIRECTOR

April 27, 2009

U.S. Congressman Bart Stupak
200 Division Street
Petoskey, Michigan 49770

Dear U.S. Congressman Stupak:

The staffs at the Michigan Department of Transportation's Grayling Transportation Service Center and the North Region Office have been working with the Mullett Township Board and the Topinabee Development Association over the last two years in their effort to develop a comprehensive plan to sustainably revitalize the village of Topinabee.

A plan has been put forth that will address the following four areas:

1. Reconstruct the portion of M-27 passing through the village.
2. Enhance streetscapes in the reconstruction zone.
3. Improved storm water discharge into Mullett Lake.
4. Provide an opportunity for revitalization of the local economy.

Unfortunately for Topinabee, the implementation of their plan and its four components has to be done as part of one interdependent project. MDOT does not have the ability to address all of these items at the same time through any single funding program.

Therefore, as a representative of MDOT's North Region, I would like to offer this letter of support for the Topinabee project as a candidate for Federal High Priority Project funding.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 989-731-5090.

DL:dlg

CC: Tom O'Hare
Brian Ness

Sincerely,

David Langhorst
Transportation Planning Specialist