



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD – VIRTUAL MEETING  
March 2, 2021 6:00 PM

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS
3. ROLL CALL
4. PRESENTATION
  - A. 2021 Township Action Plan Work Group Updates
5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
6. TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT
7. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
9. CONSENT AGENDA
  - A. Communications
  - B. Minutes
    - (1) February 16, 2021 Virtual Study Session Meeting
    - (2) February 20, 2021 Virtual Board Retreat
  - C. Bills
  - D. Disposal of Surplus Items
  - E. Request for Section 61 Review for Proposed Land Acquisition for Parks
  - F. Election Polling Location Changes
10. QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY
11. HEARINGS (CANARY)
12. ACTION ITEMS (PINK)
  - A. Powell Road PRI SAD #43 – Resolution #3
  - B. Resolution Celebrating Women’s History Month
13. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS (ORCHID)
  - A. 6503 Park Lake Road Open Space Easement
  - B. 2021 Citizen Survey
  - C. Recreational Marihuana
14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
15. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
16. ADJOURNMENT

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All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained from the Supervisor.  
Appointment of Supervisor Pro Tem and/ or Temporary Clerk if necessary.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting:  
Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.  
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall (VIRTUAL MEETING)



9A

**CONSENT AGENDA  
BOARD  
COMMUNICATIONS,  
MARCH 2, 2021**

**From:** [Helen Huang](#)  
**To:** [Deborah Guthrie](#)  
**Subject:** Powell Rd Paving Objection  
**Date:** Sunday, February 21, 2021 6:48:14 PM  
**Attachments:** [Special Assessment Objection 2021.pdf](#)  
[Special Assessment Hearing Notice.pdf](#)

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Good Evening,

I am writing from New China of MI. Inc., owners of the 4714 Powell Rd property. We are writing to object to the Powell Road Special Assessment. Our objections are attached here as a pdf, along with the hearing notice for your reference. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Yong (Helen) Huang

New China of MI, Inc.  
2078 E. M-78  
East Lansing, MI 48823

To Whom it May Concern:

New China of MI, Inc. (owner of 4714 Powell Rd.) does not agree with Powell Road Holding LLC's special assessment for the following reasons:

1. Silverstone Subdivision will have 25 lots once construction is complete. However, it seems only 5 of the lots directly along the road will be responsible for contributing towards this special assessment. The 20 other lots will still need to use Powell Rd to get in and out of the subdivision, therefore these 20 lots will also be benefiting and should bear some cost of the assessment.
2. 4714 Powell is expected to pay \$16,440.71 for the construction of Powell Rd, which is more than 13% of the property's current value (2020 estimate \$126,000). However, Mayberry is currently estimated to contribute towards 5 lots in the Silverstone Subdivision, and 4 owner occupied homes totaling \$256,001.35 of the \$460,000 estimated total. For Mayberry to pay a proportionate amount of 13% of their property's value, the value of all 25 of their home would have to be less than \$2,000,000, or ~\$80,000/home. Mayberry's 25 homes will no doubt be valued at much more than 2 million, thus the proportion they will be paying towards the road will be much lower. With Mayberry being a much larger and more profitable company than ours, it is unfair for our much smaller company to pay a greater proportion.
3. Originally, Meridian Township had approved Mayberry homes to build 4 houses without paving Powell Road. However, Mayberry decided instead to build 25 houses that would then require pavement of Powell Rd. Since this was Mayberry's decision to incur the cost of the construction of the road, it is unfair to expect us, whose business did not require pavement of this road, to incur these additional costs. The additional cost of \$16,440.71, with the addition of 5% interest for 10 year, would come out to a total of \$20,925.51. To keep the same profit as before, we would have to charge our tenants an extra \$174.38/month. This would make it more difficult to rent the house, and thus this new road will actual deter future tenants. In summary, this special assessment is not a benefit for our company and will actually hurt our business.
4. Currently, owner occupied properties are exempt from this special assessment. While our property is currently a non-owner-occupied home, if the property changes to "owner occupied" before completion of the road, the residents should also be exempt.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY  
Powell Road Public Road Improvement  
Special Assessment District #43  
Notice of Hearing

3302-02-23-301-001  
NEW CHINA OF MI INC  
2078 E M-78  
EAST LANSING MI 48823

**TO THE RECORD OWNERS OF, OR PARTIES IN INTEREST IN, THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY CONSTITUTING THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT: (SEE LEGAL DESCRIPTION)**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, acting on a proper petition signed by the record owners of more than fifty percent (50%) of the total frontage above described, has determined to make the following described public road improvements: **Grade, gravel and pave Powell Road, from Grand River Avenue north 1,576 feet to the north plat line of Silverstone Subdivision; and to be completed by the owner of Silverstone Subdivision;** and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefitted thereby.

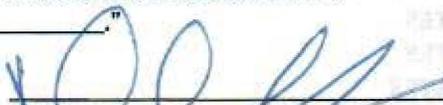
The Powell Road Public Road Improvement Special Assessment District No. 43 is being established to partially reimburse the owner of Silverstone Subdivision (3302-02-23-151-001) for the construction of the Powell Road Public Road Improvement SAD #43.

After road construction has been completed by the owner, Mayberry Homes doing business as Powell Road Holdings LLC, the Township will assess the following six (6) parcels: 3302-02-22-276-009, 3302-02-22-426-007, 3302-02-23-301-001, 3302-02-23-301-003, 3302-02-23-301-004, 3302-02-23-301-012 for their share of the Powell Road Public Road Improvement Special Assessment District #43, and reimburse the owner of Silverstone Subdivision for these six assessments. The owner of Silverstone Subdivision will not be reimbursed for the remaining four (4) parcels (3302-02-22-276-006; 3302-02-22-276-007; 3302-02-22-426-003; 3302-02-22-426-004) nor the 6 future parcels (including Silverstone Way road width) of the Silverstone Subdivision (parent parcel 3302-02-23-151-001) and shall be responsible for their portion of the assessment. Plans and estimates have been prepared and are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the Township Board will meet Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, for the purpose of hearing objections to the petition, the improvement and the special assessment district therefore. The Township Board is also interested in hearing those that favor the proposed project. To object to the improvements, you or your agent may appear in person at the hearing or you must file your objections in writing with the Township Clerk at or before the time of the hearing. **The meeting agenda, packet and virtual meeting credentials will be posted on the Township webpage at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us)**. For additional questions, please contact Meridian Township Public Works at (517) 853-4440 or by email at [dpw@meridian.mi.us](mailto:dpw@meridian.mi.us).

**FOR PURPOSES OF THIS HEARING, THE AMOUNT TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST YOUR PROPERTY IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$ 16,440.71**

Dated: 2/4/2021

  
Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

**From:** [He, Guangming](#)  
**To:** [Board](#)  
**Subject:** Do not expand the drug culture into our community  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 11:08:01 AM

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Dear Board,

Meridian is a family centered, bedroom community that should discourage gateway drugs among it's children and the general population. Leading by example is the best way to create a thriving neighborhood that people actively seek out to live and raise their families.

I agree with Chief Plaga in opposition to recreational drug outlets in Meridian Township.

In addition to increasing the police workload due collateral investigations, such as NSF, RA, B&E, UDAA, CDM, OD and others, this type of business has no up side for the township and only down sides.

Additionally, these outlets are readily available in East Lansing, Lansing and other nearby communities without the need to establish more of the same.

Please vote down this misguided solicitation to expand the drug culture into our community.

Thanks,

Guangming He

2550 Lupine Ct.  
Okemos

**From:** [Meridian Township, MI](#)  
**To:** [Board](#)  
**Subject:** wieberd2@gmail.com  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 8:11:24 PM

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Message submitted from the <Meridian Township, MI> website.

**Site Visitor Name:** Deborah Wieber  
**Site Visitor Email:** wieberd2@gmail.com

I am writing to express my position on allowing recreational marijuana sales in Meridian Township. I just watched Phil Deschaine's presentation about this issue. I thought it was excellent. I am opposed to allowing recreational marijuana sales in the township for all the reasons outlined by Mr. Deschaine. I have been a homeowner in the township since 1996. Our two sons attended Okemos Schools. We should not be in any hurry to open up to recreational sales. Once we start it we cannot reverse it. Let's wait and look at impacts in other communities. Let's learn from them and if we want to do this years down the road, we can always do that. I'm one of the 61% of Meridian Township voters voting to legalize recreational use. I did so to eliminate it as a reason to put users in prison. This vote on the issue doesn't translate into support to allow sales in our Township. I don't support the sale of it for recreational purposes in this community. There is plenty of access to it elsewhere. Let's wait and learn from others then decide down the road. Let's see if there really is a revenue stream that comes into communities without costs that outweigh it. Thank you.

**From:** [renee korrey](#)  
**To:** [Board](#)  
**Cc:** [Amber Clark](#); [Frank Walsh](#)  
**Subject:** Recreational Marijuana  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:46:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dear Meridian Township Board.docx](#)

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Please accept this communication on the above stated topic.

February 24, 2021

Dear Meridian Township Board,

I am engaging you, wearing “two hats” as I sometimes do. First, let me address you as the DDA Chairperson. Having been on the DDA since inception, I am a person some people seek out in order to get accurate information and to share thoughts and views. Some want to vent and others want me to carry their opinions forward as I am doing now.

Since approximately 5 days before your February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting on Recreational Marijuana, and as late as 2 days ago, 14 Meridian Township citizens have voiced their objection to our township OPTING IN. These people have been encouraged by myself to write letters or attend Zoom and as far as I can see, none spoke at the Zoom. I understand in order to “count” they really need to step up and be a voice vs. passing on frustrations to me. I promised to pass on their thoughts and I am.

As a private citizen, and having watched the entire board meeting from February 16<sup>th</sup>, my thoughts are very simple. Do not OPT IN. My reasoning is also very simple. As Treasurer Deschaine pointed out in his presentation, this is still too new a concept. There is still much to learn as it has been a legal concept a very short time. The private citizens speaking at the meeting are afraid for their children and their quality of life. Quality of life is everything to our residents and they have invested in us.

Each person who spoke at that meeting who was in favor, had some type of stake in it; mostly profit. Further, in order to “sweeten the pot” (pun intended), they offer 1% contributions to nonprofits and other incentives. A good idea can stand on its own merit.

Each person who spoke who was against the OPT IN, were concerned for their families and their properties and quality of life.

You have a really big opportunity right now to serve your constituents. You have a really important opportunity to show the residents that our township can't be bought. To show that we are great because we go the extra mile for the residents and take our time.

The businesses and their representatives have not done all the work they can do. If they want this, let them educate the residents so the fear is reduced. It is their responsibility and not the townships to reach out.

I have looked at the studies and statistics and after weeding out the profit motivated and skewed, I have come up with the following:

- To date (with limited credible information spanning only 3 years), it is clear that there is more crime associated with black market marijuana which is cheaper than the regulated storefront.
- Marijuana (THC specifically) has significant health risks – start at the epicenter for our bodies which is the pituitary gland and work your way from there.

So, you see, there is a pro and a con and both are immaterial. Why? They are just information. They have nothing to do with a resident's quality of life in their neighborhood. That is why this is very simple. You do not OPT IN and you wait and see.

This doesn't mean anyone in the township is being denied access – they just have to drive 3 miles and no different than wanting to go to Horrock's or Flap Jack Shack. We can't and don't have to be everything to everyone. Our first priority is to our residents. Let these for-profit people spend the time to educate our citizens and not just barge in telling us what is right.

For the record, I have no opinion one way or the other on the basic issue. With proper safeguards in place to ensure high security, ventilation and with an escrow account funded by each business which will pay for any police related activities related to their existence it is just another business.

I do have an opinion when it comes to our residents. They deserve to feel heard, and valued and they need to continue to trust.

This is not a forum on if it is good or evil; this is a forum on quality-of-life issues in the township as defined by our residents. It isn't about what you want or how much money we can get. Each resident's perception is their reality and their reality matters. This is not the time or place to push your personal agendas.

Simply, do not OPT IN. Place the responsibility of marketing this idea to the businesses. If they don't want to do that, no worries they have other options. They need us more than we need them. We are solvent enough and some of our greatest wealth are the residents of Meridian Township.

Renee Korrey

**From:** [Youyu Feng](#)  
**To:** [Board](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Concerns about opening Marijuana business in Meridian  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:03:04 AM

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Dear Meridian Township Board,,

I am writing again to express our concerns about proposed Marijuana businesses in Meridian Township. We are paying super high property tax in Okemos to maintain our safe, reliable, family-friendly community. Allowing Marijuana business, with possibly negligible revenue (minus cost) if any, will put those good qualities of our community at risk.

There have been hundreds of emails from our residents voicing their concerns and many people spoke at board meetings against the idea. Why don't Board members listen to our residents? Shouldn't the Board work for township citizens and pursue the best quality of life for them? This makes people wonder if Marijuana Business is driving the motion.

Please, listen to us residents and say NO to the proposed Marijuana stores in Meridian. Thank you!

Youyu Feng

**From:** [Mei You](#)  
**To:** [Board](#)  
**Subject:** Against the proposal of opening recreational marijuana in Meridian Township  
**Date:** Friday, February 26, 2021 9:24:56 AM

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Dear Meridian Township Board Members,

I am a long-term Meridian Township resident. After hearing the pro's and con's shared by board members in the 02/16/2021 zoom meeting, here I want to express my opinion strongly against this proposal. BECAUSE MARIJUANA CAN BRING THE DAMAGE OF OUR COMMUNITIES!!!

The scientific field has already established the common sense that marijuana can impair short-term memory and distort perception, and make it dangerous to drive<sup>1</sup>. Students who smoke marijuana have poorer educational outcomes than their nonsmoking peers. Further, a published 2010 study showed that even non-smoker who were exposed for an hour of marijuana in an unventilated room had positive urine test result<sup>2</sup> and the follow up study displayed impairment on performance in motor tasks<sup>3</sup>.

Another point I must mention is that although marijuana medical and recreational use is legal in Michigan, the U.S Food and Drug Administration has not approved even for "medical marijuana"!

Then why in rush? Why do we want to advance even though the nation has not yet opened the door?

The representatives of manufacture estimated that sales per store per year is about 2 million, which could bring the tax revenue around \$150,000 for all 6 stores. However, this will associate with increasing the expenses of application, administration, and enforcement. Frankly saying, I do not see how much financial advantage it could bring considering that extra positions will need to be added. Like the example treasurer Phil mentioned that "3 dedicated police officers focused on recreational marijuana stores in Leoni Township".

Meridian township is a premier community. Over 90% of revenue income comes from property tax, not from manufactory. Families are attracted by society's safety and outstanding academic education. These are the legacies that we, as Meridian township residency are proud of.

However, allowing the opening of recreational marijuana stores will permanently damage our society's safety, the health of our kids and the reputation of our neighborhood without any winning. As a parent, I will no longer feel safe to allow my kids to hang out with their friends. I will start worrying about letting kids walk back to home without a school bus. I will also start to worry about the decreased value of my property, etc.

I have deeply believed that the board members we have chosen represent the benefit of our community. But now, I am deeply confused because I do not understand why the township brought up this issue as this has not been well established nationwide and can't see any benefit for our community at all. Hence, I advocate every board member to vote NO for opening marijuana stores in Meridian Township.

Thanks for your consideration,

Mei You

2690 Morning Glory Dr.

Okemos, MI, 48864

1. NIH National Institute on Drug Abuse: [Letter From the Director | National Institute on](#)

[Drug Abuse \(NIDA\)](#)

2. Röhrich J, Schimmel I, Zörntlein S, et al. Concentrations of delta9-tetrahydrocannabinol and 11-nor-9-carboxytetrahydrocannabinol in blood and urine after passive exposure to Cannabis smoke in a coffee shop. *J Anal Toxicol.* 2010;34(4):196-203.
3. Cone EJ, Bigelow GE, Herrmann ES, et al. Non-smoker exposure to secondhand cannabis smoke. I. Urine screening and confirmation results. *J Anal Toxicol.* 2015;39(1):1-12. doi:10.1093/jat/bku116



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY  
LEGAL AD NOTICE:  
PUBLIC HEARING – MARCH 9, 2021  
2021 DNR GRANT APPLICATION**

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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
LEGAL NOTICE**

**2021 DNR Grant Application**

Notice is hereby given that the Park Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Tuesday March 9, 2021 at 12:00 pm to hear comments from all persons interested in the proposed 2021 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant application for park play structure development located at 2055 Towner Road, Haslett, MI (Parcel # 33-02-02-04-276-011).

Information may be examined at the Parks and Recreation Office, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett MI between the hours of 8 am-5 pm, Monday through Friday. Questions, call (517) 853-4600.

The meeting agenda, packet and/or virtual meeting credentials will be posted on the Township webpage at [www.meridian.mi.us](http://www.meridian.mi.us)

Publish:

Towne Courier  
February 28 and March 7, 2021

Deborah Guthrie  
Township Clerk

The community of Meridian Township is in close proximity to the Michigan State Capitol and Michigan State University. The Township serves the community through exceptional services, beneficial amenities and an outstanding quality of life. It is a welcoming community that celebrates quality education, recreation and lifestyles.



# THE CORPS RAPPOR



*Meridian Conservation Corps Quarterly Newsletter*



## WINTER REFLECTIONS

*A note from Meridian Township's Land Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell*

"The happiness of the bee and the dolphin is to exist. For man it is to know that and wonder at it." This quote by Jacques Cousteau, who has been an inspiration for me, perfectly encompasses my view of the natural world. Over my years of observing ecosystems, I have realized that the bee will continue to do its work with unwavering devotion. If we are to expect change in our greenhouse gas emissions, and movement toward a population that is more connected to our planet than ever, we must strive for this devotion. We are the change that needs to happen. We have seen that we can affect the world in drastic ways and we are gifted with the capacity to come up with solutions. That is where conservation comes in. Now we must take an active role in our environment to reverse some of the damage done and make up for what we have lost. 2021 is the year of #ConservationEveryday. If we just think of our little devoted bee, we can achieve great conservation one step at a time. 2021, here comes the M.C.C.!!



**2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

↔

**2021 EVENTS & GOALS**

**MCC**  
MERIDIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

- 498.9 HOURS OF HABITAT RESTORATION COMPLETED
- 403 POUNDS OF LITTER REMOVED FROM 12 PARKS BY THE CLEANUP CREW
- 135 CORPS MEMBERS
- 65 VOLUNTEERS ACTIVELY WORKING ACROSS 7 PARKS & PRESERVES
- 22 NATIVE PLANT SPECIES CULTIVATED IN PRESERVES
- 15 STEWARDSHIP SATURDAYS
- 10 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF INVASIVE PLANTS REMOVED
- 4 CONSERVATION PROGRAMS LAUNCHED
- 1 SENTINEL TREE ADOPTED BY FOREST WATCH VOLUNTEERS



# 2021 STEWARDSHIP GOALS

- INCREASE AWARENESS & ACCESSIBILITY OF TOWNSHIP PRESERVES
  - NEW RULE SIGNAGE
  - INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE FOR PRIORITY HABITAT
  - DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE
- 4 NEW CORPS PROGRAMS
  - VERNAL POOL PATROL
  - PLANTING A NATIVE MERIDIAN
  - WATERWAYS WATCH
  - BIOBLITZ SQUAD
- DEVELOP MANAGEMENT & STEWARDSHIP PLANS FOR EVERY PRESERVE
- INCREASE WETLAND PROTECTION
- EXPAND THE CONTROLLED BURN PROGRAM TO INCLUDE MORE PRIORITY AREAS
- CONTINUE REMOVING TARGET INVASIVE SPECIES



# MARCH EVENTS



- **MARCH 8TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 13TH: INVASIVE SPECIES FIELD TRAINING**
  - 10 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 20TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 27TH: SESSION 1 VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WORKSHOP**
  - 9 AM - 11 AM ZOOM WEBINAR (MORE TO COME IN APRIL)
  - OVERVIEW OF VERNAL POOLS & HOW TO JOIN THE PATROL



# APRIL EVENTS

- **APRIL 3RD: SESSION 2 VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WORKSHOP**
  - 12 PM - 2 PM ZOOM WEBINAR
  - 3:30 PM - 5 PM FIELD TRAINING (FIELD TECHNIQUES AT A LOCAL VERNAL POOL)
- **APRIL 10TH: TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY**
  - 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM @ FOSTER-CROUSE PRESERVE
- **APRIL 17TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - INVASIVE PULL 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **APRIL 24TH: MAKE EVERY DAY EARTH DAY CLEAN UP**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM CLEAN UP CREW @ TIHART-CORNELL WETLAND
  - 1:30 PM 3:30 PM INVASIVE PULL @ HARRIS NATURE CENTER

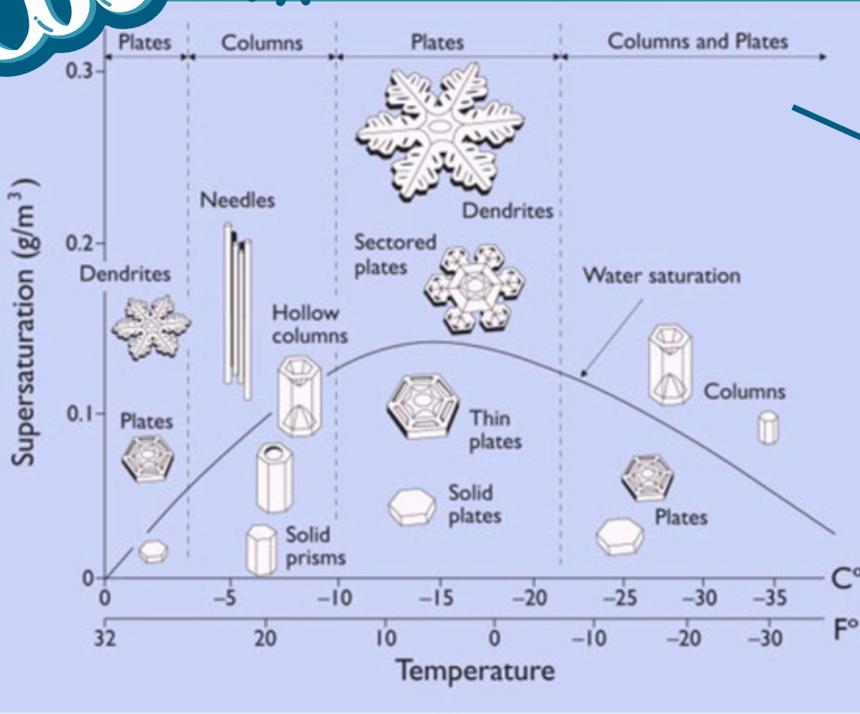


# MAY EVENTS

- **MAY 1ST: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY & TOWAR WOODS PLANTING**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
  - NATIVE TREE PLANTING @ TOWAR WOODS PRESERVE (TIME TBD)
- **MAY 8TH: MONARCH WAY-STATION SPRING CLEANING**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM @ HARTRICK PARK MONARCH GARDEN
- **MAY 15TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY & TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
  - 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY @ PONDEROSA PRESERVE
- **MAY 22ND: PLANTING A NATIVE MERIDIAN**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM PLANT NATIVE SPECIES @ THE TOWNSHIP SERVICE CENTER
- **MAY 29TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL



Cool



Effects of temperature and humidity on snowflake formation. Image via Kenneth Libbrecht.

Snowflake shape is determined by temperature & humidity!

The most intricate patterns typically form in warm, wet weather

Every snowflake has 6 sides!

"Macro Snowflake" by NASA Goddard Photo and Video is licensed under CC BY-ND 2.0

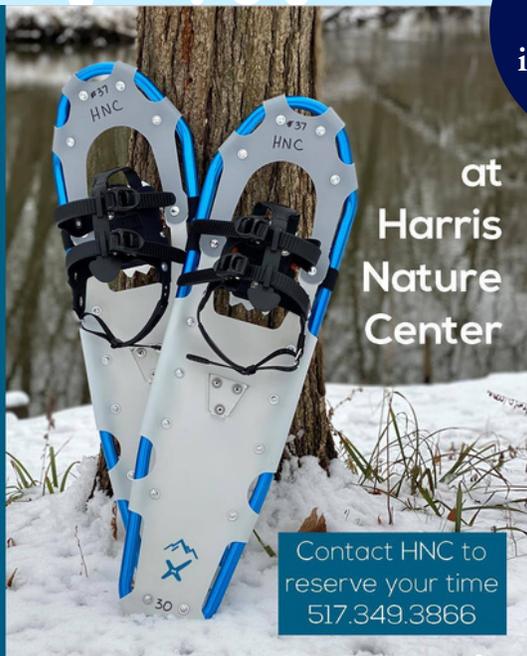
Watch this TedEd video, take a quiz & dig deeper into snow science!

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-science-of-snowflakes-marusa-bradac#watch>

## SNOWY ACTIVITIES



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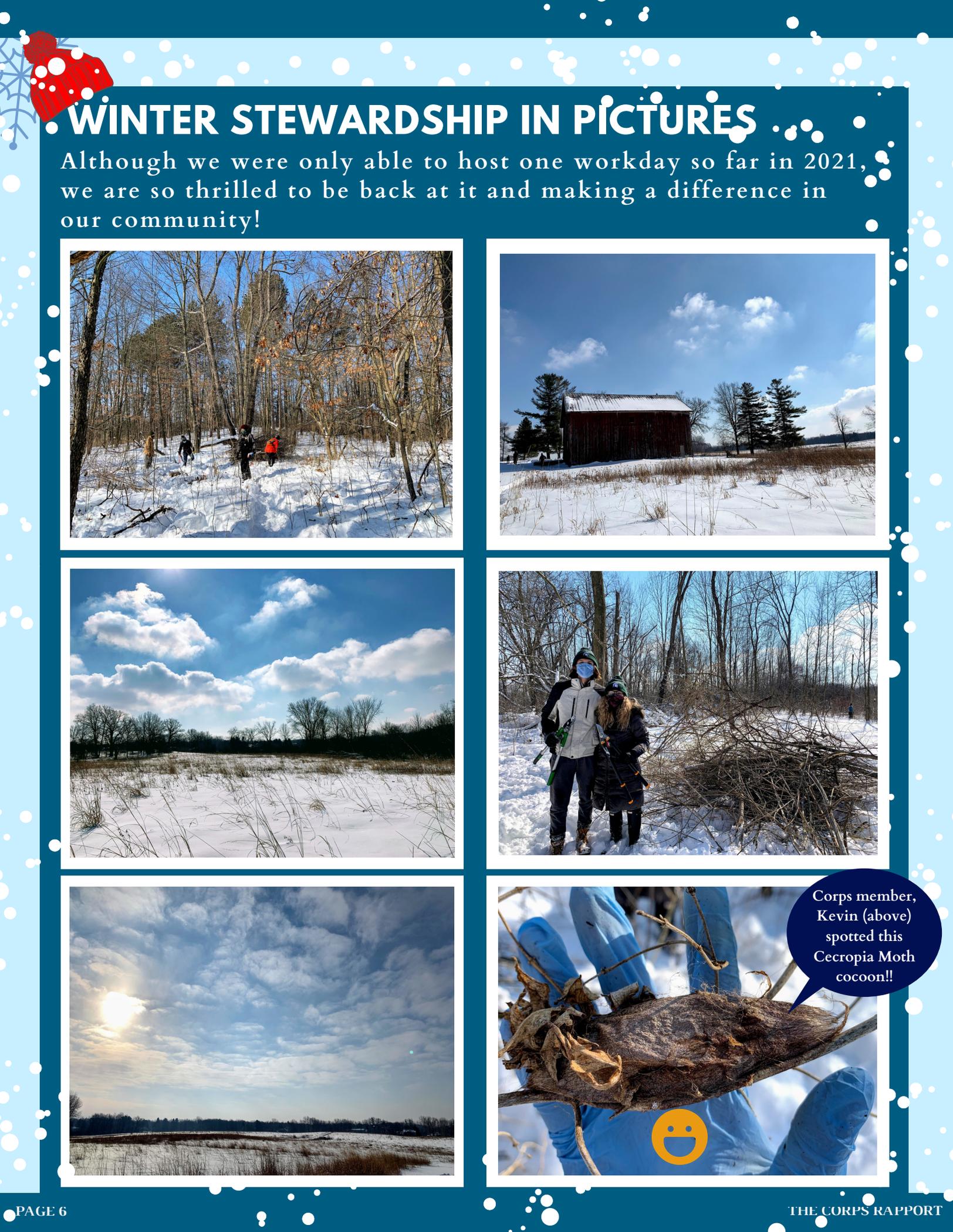
Contact HNC to reserve your time  
517.349.3866

Try to identify animal tracks in freshly fallen snow!



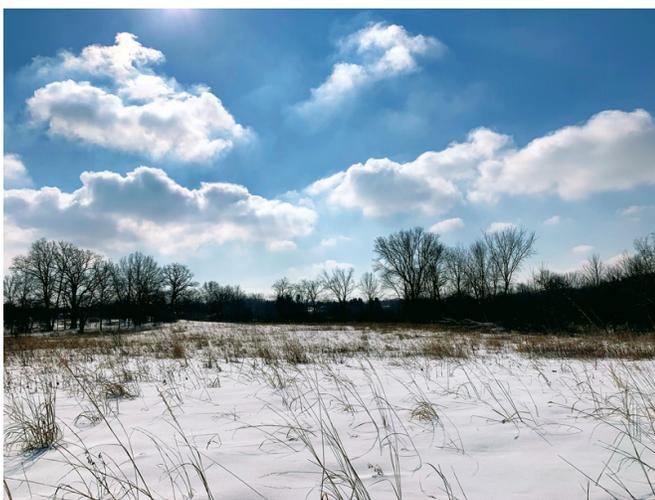
What do you think made these? Answers listed on bottom of next page!

Rent snow shoes for \$10/hour at Harris Nature Center!



# WINTER STEWARDSHIP IN PICTURES

Although we were only able to host one workday so far in 2021, we are so thrilled to be back at it and making a difference in our community!



Corps member, Kevin (above) spotted this Cecropia Moth cocoon!!



# CONSERVATION EVERYDAY

Sustainability & a greener lifestyle CAN be stress free! And, it feels great to know you are benefitting the planet we all call home. Any small step makes a big impact! Here are some tips for #ConservationEveryday

## LESS PLASTIC? FANTASTIC!

Take a tour through your house & write down any single-use items. Start by replacing something easy - use a shampoo bar instead of product that comes in a plastic bottle. This shampoo bar comes in recyclable boxboard and smells great too!



REDUCING PLASTIC IS TURTLEY AWESOME!



## REDUCE & REUSE

We talk a lot about recycling, but how can we embrace the other two R's? Trade out items, like ziplock bags, for reusable containers. Skip your coffee to-go and bring one from home in a reusable container. What was once a weekly, or daily purchase, will now be a special treat!



## COVID-19 CONSERVATION

For some of us, the pandemic has made it mandatory to increase our use of throw-away items. Make sure to cut strings off of disposable masks before tossing them in the garbage! This should be done for any products that have loops, or holes. Wildlife like this duck will thank you!

PLASTIC LIDS LIKE THIS ONE SHOULD BE CUT TO ENSURE WILDLIFE SAFETY

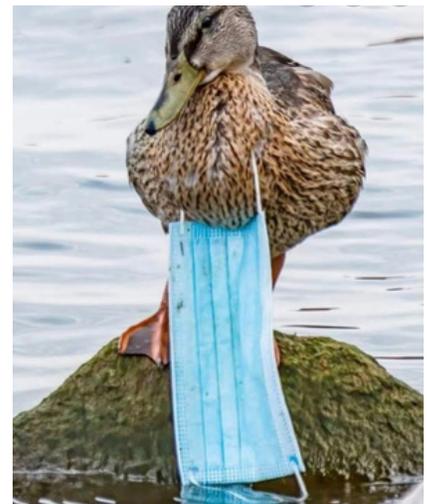


PHOTO CREDIT: MARY CAPORAL PRIOR

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

Issue #176



# Green Gazette

March 2021

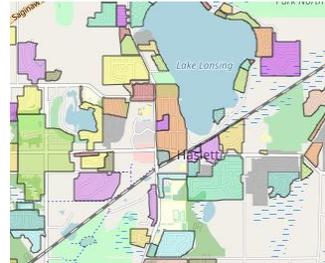
*News you can reuse!*

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors Go Green

Join the **Green Neighbors Network** and help share ways to keep our community sustainable, healthy, clean, and green. Join [here!](#)

Currently, there are 36 Green Neighbors representing 33 neighborhoods and room for lots more! As a "Green Neighbor" you're invited to:

- Occasionally share news through your social media (NextDoor, Facebook, etc.). For example, articles (or entire issues) of the Green Gazette.
- Once joined, share information directly to other Green Neighbors by emailing [greenneighbors@re-news.net](mailto:greenneighbors@re-news.net).
- Participate in special "green orientations" on ecological, energy, and related themes.
- Subscribe/unsubscribe/unjoin any time!



Join the **Green Neighbor Network** [here](#) and please send questions, suggestions, and news to [gnn@re-news.net](mailto:gnn@re-news.net).

## Solar Stories Shine

MI Solar Stories are a great opportunity to learn firsthand from experienced homeowners and experts about their successes and failure with renewable energy. 30 minute presentations are followed a 30 minute Q&A. To find out more, please contact John at [johnsarver3@gmail.com](mailto:johnsarver3@gmail.com). MI Solar Stories are held on Zoom most Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 pm (see an exception below). View past episodes [here](#).



## Energy Stewardship Webinar March 4



Michigan Interfaith Power and Light will host an Energy Stewardship webinar on Thursday, March 4th from 7-8 pm. Cosponsored by GLREA, the webinar will feature Judy Kindel and Dale Romsos from University Lutheran Church in East Lansing sharing how their church upgraded to LED lighting to save 40% on their electricity bill, how incentives from Consumers Energy covered over half of the cost of the lighting upgrade, and how they took the next step and installed solar panels on their roof. The webinar will take place on Zoom. Register for

this free event [here](#). There will not be a MI Solar Story presentation this week.



## Smart Gardening Tips

(from Michelle Beloskur, by Paige Filice)

Whether you live on a lake, a river, a wetland, or not, you'll likely find one of these MSU Extension factsheets about:

- Protecting frogs and toads
- Waterfront plants to protect shorelines
- Stormwater solutions
- Planning a nearshore garden
- Rain gardens
- Invasive species

[Learn More](#)

## New Options for Food Waste



Beginning March 8th, Hammond Farms will offer drop off sites for residents who wish to have their organic food scraps recycled! [Hammond Farms locations](#) have bright green carts to hold food scraps until they are taken to a compost facility in Dimondale and added to yard waste and other organics to create a rich certified compost.

Compostables include fruits, vegetables, coffee grounds, meat, bones and BPI certified compostable products. Absolutely no glass, metal, plastic or trash will be accepted (including plastic bags)! Pricing is \$2.50 per 5 gallon bucket, \$5.00 for a 13 gallon kitchen can. Compostable container liners are available.

Hours 8-4 M-F effective 3/8/2021 at these locations:

- 2247 E. M-78 (Saginaw Hwy), East Lansing/Meridian
- 1070 Clark Rd, DeWitt
- 5834 Michigan Rd, Dimondale

## Getting to Zero Waste....



Tom Cary, Market Manager for Meridian Township, shares some Zero Waste resources:

Kathryn Kellogg is a zero waste blogger at [GoingZeroWaste.com](https://asustainablemind.com). In this interview <https://asustainablemind.com/048> she discusses misconceptions and how replacing one toiletry item with the DIY version helped solved her pain problem. This podcast, <https://asustainablemind.com/006>, features **Bea Johnson**, one of today's foremost experts in the area of zero-waste living and voluntary simplicity. She is most well-known for being able to fit her family of four's trash for an entire year into a quart-sized jar.

## Recycling Tips

Tips for successful recycling:

[Granger Curbside Guidelines](#) (Meridian Twp)

[Recycling Drop-Off Centers and More](#)

"[Sip It, Tip It, Recycle It](#)" and other good resources from the Recycling Partnership.

[Recycling Raccoon Squad](#)



## Tuning Green



Tune in to the Environmental Commission on the 1st Wednesdays at 7pm on Comcast Ch 21, [www.homtvtv.net](http://www.homtvtv.net), [Facebook](#), or on Zoom.

This month's "Green Theme" presentation will feature Lori Welch, Lansing's Sustainability Manager, who will share about the new climate partnership and recycling facility for our region (from 7 - 7:30ish).

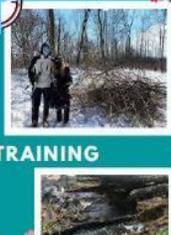
Don't miss **Green Dialogues** Wednesday mornings at 9am on Zoom, Meeting #89458603363 PW: "green" or 1-click [here](#)



## The Corps Rapport

Check out MCC's latest newsletter [here](#)... and take a peek at some March events below...

- **MARCH 6TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 13TH: INVASIVE SPECIES FIELD TRAINING**
  - 10 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 20TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 27TH: SESSION 1 VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WORKSHOP**
  - 9 AM - 11 AM ZOOM WEBINAR (MORE TO COME IN APRIL)
  - OVERVIEW OF VERNAL POOLS & HOW TO JOIN THE PATROL



## Spring/Summer Recycling Event

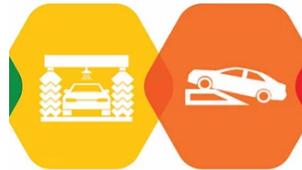
The Meridian Green Team is hoping organize a recycling event this spring or summer. Stay tuned to future issues of the Green Gazette or [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us) for details. Thank you to sponsors who have come forward to offer assistance! We will likely focus on **electronics** and perhaps one other item. If you have suggestions or would like to volunteer or cosponsor, please contact [harvey@meridian.mi.us](mailto:harvey@meridian.mi.us).



## Tips for water quality [here](#)...



Use native vegetation      Capture and reuse



Wash your car at a car wash facility (or      Maintain all vehicles, eliminating leaks and

## Run for the Trees



April 22-30, 2021 No matter how you reach the finish line – walk, run or hike – you pick the pace and the place, as long as it’s outdoors. You have between April 22-30, 2021 to complete it. For good measure, Earth Day and Arbor Day serve as bookends. All proceeds support tree-planting and forest protection efforts in state parks and recreation areas.

Register by March 1 [here](#)

### Past Issues

*This is Issue #176!*  
For past issues: [Click here](#)



### Green Gazette Directory

[Go Social!](#) go experience, go share, go social! Visit the sites below...

Join the conversation: [#Haslett](#) [#Okemos](#) [#MeridianTownship](#) [#APrimeCommunity](#)

[Green Meridian Page](#)

[Green Meridian Group](#)

[Meridian Parks & Rec](#)

[Harris Nature Center](#)

[Meridan Green Team \(Okemos\)](#)



### Recycling questions or suggestions?

517-853-4466 or [recycle@meridian.mi.us](mailto:recycle@meridian.mi.us)

[Visit our Website](#)



**CONSENT AGENDA  
PROPOSED BOARD MINUTES  
MARCH 2, 2021**

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

- (1) Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the the Virtual Regular Meetings of February 2, 2021 as submitted.**

**ALTERNATE MOTION:**

- (1) Move to approve and ratify the minutes of the the Virtual Regular Meetings of February 2, 2021 with the following amendment(s):**

**[insert amendments]**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
TOWNSHIP BOARD VIRTUAL STUDY SESSION MEETING **-DRAFT-**  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198  
517-349-1232, Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021 **6:00 pm.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Director of Public Works Perry, Fire Chief Hamel, Police Chief Plaga, Community Planning and Development Director Kieselbach, Information Technology Director Gebes, Principal Planner Menser

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Clerk Guthrie called the roll of the Board.

4. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Styka opened public remarks at 6:02 pm.

Lynne Page, 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos, stated she has submitted written comments and spoke in opposition to recreational marihuana.

Robin Schneider, 5876 Cade Street, Haslett, spoke in support to opt-in for recreational marihuana

Cindy Liu, 1575 Maiden Lane, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Wei Li, 2565 Sophiea Parkway, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Zhongxiao Michael Chen, 3812 Viceroy Drive, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Scott DeAnda, 25607 Wedge Street, Calumet, representing Tranquility Fields, a recreational cannabis company that operates a micro-business and retail business, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana and would like to operate a business in the Township

Jerry Richards, 3896 Sunwind Drive, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Jack Zhang, 4719 Powell Road, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Anthony Szilagy, 5317 Okemos Road, Okemos, stated he works for Green Peak Industries, which operates under the SkyMint brand, and spoke support for opting in for recreational marihuana

Kevin Liu, 2690 Morning Glory Drive, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

May Yu, 2690 Morning Glory Drive, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Meghan McFarlin, 515 Cornell Avenue, East Lansing, Public Affairs Manager for Green Peak Industries, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana and stated it would make the medical marihuana facilities more viable

Marcus Baldori, 2267 Mt. Hope Road, Okemos, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana and stated it would make the medical marihuana facilities more viable

Mike McCurdy, 5458 Okemos Road, Okemos, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana

Carla Galligan, 4367 Aztec Way, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Cat Ebert, 1305 Glen Meadow Lane, East Lansing, MSU Student, East Lansing, representing the MSU Chapter of Student for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP), a global non-profit organization, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana

Bob Baldori, 2719 Mt. Hope Road, Okemos, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana

Alan Schimone, 108 S Main Street, Ste. A, Royal Oak, Attorney for Cure Leaf TC, one of the Township’s medical marihuana facilities, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana and asked to make the current medical marihuana facilities more viable.

Supervisor Styka closed public remarks at 6:43 pm.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Trustee Opsommer moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Trustee Jackson**

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried 7-0.

6. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Discussion on Adult Use Recreational Marihuana

Township Attorney Matt Kushel summarized the February 4, 2021 correspondence on the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, addressed information contained in the memorandum from Clerk Guthrie and Trustees Opsommer and Wisinski and answered inquiries from Trustees.

Discussion:

- Trustee Opsommer reviewed information in “The Michigan Medical Marihuana Act (MMMA), Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA) and Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA) memorandum (a copy is in the minute book).
- Treasurer Deschaine offered a power point presentation: “What are the benefits and risks of approving up to six recreational marihuana stores in Meridian Township” (copy of presentation is in the minute book)
- Township Attorney Kushel was directed to prepare a written outlined of the process to be followed if the Township decides to proceed with the opt-in for recreational marihuana. Attorney Kushel stated he could have the information available for the March 2 Township Board Meeting

**Board consensus to place this item the March 2, 2021 Board meeting agenda.**

7. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Styka Opened Public Remarks at 8:45 pm.

Lynne Page, 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos, spoke about the Board’s promise to wait on a decision to opt-in for recreational marihuana until medical marihuana facilities were operating. She raised questions on the timeframe of the special use permit process and the Ordinance for the medical marihuana facilities

Cat Ebert, 1305 Glen Meadow Lane, East Lansing, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana

Leszek Gawarecki, 4568 Tacoma Boulevard, Okemos, spoke in opposition to opting in for recreational marihuana

Bob Baldori, 2719 Mt. Hope Road, Okemos, spoke in support for opting in for recreational marihuana

Supervisor Styka Closed Public Remarks at 8:4 pm.

8. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Treasurer Deschaine announced the annual Township Board Retreat on Saturday, February 20, 2021, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**Treasurer Deschaine moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Wisinski**

VOICE/HAND VOTE: Motion carried 7-0.

**Supervisor Styka adjourned the meeting at 8:57 pm.**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
SPECIAL MEETING TOWNSHIP BOARD 2020 RETREAT **-DRAFT-**  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198  
853-4000, Township Hall Room  
SATURDAY, February 20, 0221 **9:00 am**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Wisinski, Sundland (arrived at 10:05 am)

STAFF: Township Manager Walsh, Director of Public Works Perry

ABSENT: None

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Larry Merrill, Consultant, Center for Local Solutions, Public Policy Associates, Inc.

3. DISCUSSION

A. Part 1: The Governance Board We Need to Be

B. Part 2: Governance as Leadership

C. Part 3: Review, Reaffirm or Revise Township Goals

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

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RONALD J. STYKA,  
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

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DEBORAH GUTHRIE  
TOWNSHIP CLERK



**To: Board Members**  
**From: Miriam Mattison, Finance Director**  
**Date: March 2, 2021**  
**Re: Board Bills**

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Charter Township of Meridian  
Board Meeting  
3/2/2021

MOVED THAT THE TOWNSHIP BOARD APPROVE THE MANAGER'S  
BILLS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMON CASH	\$	185,767.84
PUBLIC WORKS	\$	4,133.20
TRUST & AGENCY	\$	4,806.09
	TOTAL CHECKS:	\$ 194,707.13
CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS		
2/18/2021-2/24/2021	\$	6,516.02
	TOTAL PURCHASES:	\$ <u>201,223.15</u>
ACH PAYMENTS	\$	<u>6,404.79</u>

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. AFFORDABLE RENTAL MANAGEMENT	RENT FOR D. BEMAVIDES	700.00	
2. AFFORDABLE TIRE	UNIT 52- STATE CONTRACT FLEET TIRES 2021	100.90	
3. ALLISON GOODMAN	MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT JAN & FEB	28.56	
4. BARYAMES CLEANERS	STANDARD POLICE UNIFORM CLEANING	567.05	
5. BOBCAT OF LANSING	TOOLCAT HEADACHE RACK UNIT #686	1,017.87	
	UNIT #55 TOOLCAT REPAIR PARTS	609.25	
	UNIT #55 TOOLCAT ESTIMATED	1,082.94	
	TOTAL	2,710.06	
6. CHICKADEE GOATMILK SOAP	FARM MARKET VENDOR	14.00	
7. CORE TECHNOLOGY CORP	CORE TECHNOLOGY TALON MAINTENANCE RENEWAL	2,577.00	
8. CRYSTAL FLASH	FLEET FUEL 2021	11,879.63	
9. DBI	OFFICE SUPPLIES- MARKERS	13.16	
10. FISHBECK, THOMPSON, CARR & HUBER	HVAC SYSTEM COMMISSIONING SERVICES	1,491.00	
11. FORESIGHT GROUP	WATER BILLS AND POSTAGE FOR 2021	523.01	
12. H.C. BERGER COMPANY	COPIER USAGE 1/15-2/14	604.56	
13. JEFFORY BROUGHTON	RADIO MAINTENANCE/PARTS/EQUIPMENT	244.00	
14. KITCH DRUTCHAS WAGNER VALITUTTI	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED - JAN	450.00	
15. LAFOUNTAINS ALL NATURAL BEEF	FARM MARKET VENDOR	300.00	
16. LAKEVIEW APARTMENTS	PAYMENT OF RENT FOR M.B	815.00	104627
17. LANSING SANITARY SUPPLY INC	ICEAWAY TURBO ICEMELTER 105PLT	739.51	
	STATE CONTRACT CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES 2021	290.12	
	TOTAL	1,029.63	
18. LEAK PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT INC	BI ANNUAL FUEL ISLAND PUMPS FILTER CHANGE	333.36	
	COMPLETE FUEL MONITORING SYSTEM (2019) - ESTIMATED	2,627.79	
	FUEL PUMPS -GELLED UP	247.20	
	TOTAL	3,208.35	
19. MANNIK AND SMITH	2021 LOCAL ROAD PROGRAM ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION SERVIC	34,371.95	
20. MCKESSON MEDICAL-SURGICAL GOC	SOL		
	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	477.66	
	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	395.59	
	AMBULANCE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	72.52	
	TOTAL	945.77	
21. MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	TRANSFER FOR FLEX CHECKING FOR 2/26/21 PAYROLL	370.23	
22. MERRILL FORD	UNIT 38 -FORD FLEET REPAIRS AND PARTS 2021	142.12	
	UNIT 127- FORD FLEET REPAIRS AND PARTS 2021	40.10	
	TOTAL	182.22	
23. MID MICHIGAN EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT	UNIT 679 -POLICE INTERCEPTORS UPFITTING	9,858.48	
24. MR. R'S DRIVING SCHOOL	MERIDIAN TWP SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF GRANT	3,500.00	104628
25. OAK CONSTRUCTION CORP	CENTRAL MERIDIAN REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECOR PROJECT	83,075.07	
26. OVERHEAD DOOR OF LANSING	C.FIRE - BLANKET FOR OVERHAED DOOR REPAIRS MULTIPLE BUILD	180.00	
	SERVICE CENTER OVERHEAD DOOR WORK	295.00	
	TOTAL	475.00	

02/25/2021 11:00 AM  
 User: FAULKNER  
 DB: Meridian

INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
 EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/02/2021 - 03/02/2021  
 BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED OPEN AND PAID  
 BANK CODE: GF

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
27. PORTER LEE CORP	BEAST EVIDENCE ANNUAL SUPPORT	1,323.00	
28. POWER DMS	POWERDMS POLICE DEPT POLICY MANAGEMENT & ACCREDITATION ST	5,000.96	
29. PRO-TECH MECHANICAL SERVICES	PSB- AS REQUIRED HVAC REPAIRS FOR ALL BUILDINGS	1,965.75	
30. RECLAIMED BY DESIGN	MARCH- 2021 MONTHLY OPERATION OF RECYCLING CENTER	2,000.00	
31. SIGNATURE FORD INC.	UNIT 130 - FORD FLEET REPAIRS AND PARTS 2021	92.28	
32. SOLDAN'S FEED & PET SUPPLIES	CANINE SUPPLIES FOR K9	36.99	
33. ST THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH	REIMB FOR A PORTION OF RENT FOR E.SHORT	375.00	104629
34. SUPREME SANITATION	PORTABLE TOILETS FOR PARKS IN 2021	90.00	
	PORTABLE TOILETS FOR PARKS IN 2021	90.00	
	PORTABLE TOILETS FOR PARKS IN 2021	160.00	
	PORTABLE TOILETS FOR PARKS IN 2021	90.00	
	TOTAL	430.00	
35. TARGET SOLUTIONS LEARNING LLC	TARGET SOLUTIONS CHECK-IT FIRE VEHICLE/STATIONS 2021	1,879.20	
36. THE CHEESE PEOPLE OF GRAND RAPIDS	FARM MARKET VENDOR	12.00	
37. THE HARKNESS LAW FIRM PLLC	LEGAL FEES-UTC	6,677.38	
38. TIFFANY ANN DANIELS	FARM MARKET VENDOR	23.00	
39. TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING	GLRC ANNUAL DUES FOR 2021- STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	5,917.65	
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		185,767.84	
BANK TOTALS:			
Bank GF COMMON CASH		185,767.84	

02/25/2021 11:00 AM  
User: FAULKNER  
DB: Meridian

INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/02/2021 - 03/02/2021  
BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED OPEN AND PAID  
BANK CODE: PWRZ

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. CUMMINS INC	GENERATOR MAINTENANCE 2021 AND COMPLETE 2020	689.57	
	GENERATOR MAINTENANCE 2021 AND COMPLETE 2020	699.67	
	GENERATOR REPAIRS - CENTRAL LIFT STATION	442.96	
	TOTAL	<u>1,832.20</u>	
2. MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY	D.PERRY - CONSTRUCTION QUALITY PAVING WORKSHOP	45.00	
3. TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING	AERIAL IMAGERY FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN	2,256.00	
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		4,133.20	
BANK TOTALS:			
Bank PWRZ PUBLIC WORKS		4,133.20	

02/25/2021 11:01 AM  
User: FAULKNER  
DB: Meridian

INVOICE APPROVAL BY INVOICE REPORT FOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
EXP CHECK RUN DATES 03/02/2021 - 03/02/2021  
BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED OPEN AND PAID  
BANK CODE: TA

Vendor Name	Description	Amount	Check #
1. HAMA PROPERTY MGMNT LLC	W SLEEPY HOLLOW OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES	66.22	13087
2. HASLETT SPIRIT	DOCKET 154-21-0005 2020 TAX YEAR	30.92	13088
	DOCKET 154-21-0005 2019 TAX YEAR	33.02	13088
	TOTAL	<u>63.94</u>	
3. LERETA	5407 MAPLE RIDGE OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER PROPERTY TAXES	879.30	13089
4. STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES	DOCKET 154-20-0460 FOR TAX YEAR 2019	3,285.05	13090
5. THE COCA COLA CO	33-02-02-90-532-479 OVER PAYMENT @ 2055 GRAND RIVER	111.58	13091
6. WILLIAM F CHAMBERLAIN	2323 HASLETT OVER PAYMENT OF WINTER TAXES	400.00	13092
TOTAL - ALL VENDORS		4,806.09	
BANK TOTALS:			
Bank TA TRUST & AGENCY		4,806.09	

**Credit Card Report 2/18/2021-2/24/2021**

<b>Posting Date</b>	<b>Merchant Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Name</b>
2021/02/18	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$26.37	MIKE ELLIS
2021/02/18	BANNASCH WELDING INC	\$247.12	TODD FRANK
2021/02/18	AMZN MKTP US*E68L44FZ3	\$118.00	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/18	AMAZON.COM*AF3NZ1663	\$80.37	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/02/18	AMZN MKTP US*EE3TD7CG3	\$249.50	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/02/19	EXXONMOBIL 97687552	\$59.75	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/02/19	CATHEY COMPANY	\$196.32	ROBERT STACY
2021/02/19	HASLETT ANIMAL HOSPITA	\$14.80	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/02/19	SIGNARAMA OF LANSING	\$50.74	ROBIN FAUST
2021/02/19	EXOTIC AUTOMATION&SUPPLY	\$20.14	TODD FRANK
2021/02/19	USPS PO 2569800864	\$11.75	CAROL HASSE
2021/02/19	MEIJER # 025 FUEL	\$99.16	KEITH HEWITT
2021/02/19	GFG INSTRUMENTATION INC	\$183.72	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/02/22	MEIJER # 025 FUEL	\$100.00	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/02/22	MEIJER # 025 FUEL	\$100.00	LAWRENCE BOBB
2021/02/22	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$59.30	TYLER KENNEL
2021/02/22	MITA, INC.	\$75.00	NYAL NUNN
2021/02/22	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$188.88	CHAD HOUCK
2021/02/22	SIMPLISAFE	\$274.89	KYLE ROYSTON
2021/02/22	THE HOME DEPOT #2723	\$15.92	KYLE FOGG
2021/02/22	FEDEX 783913725301	\$14.31	ANDREA SMILEY
2021/02/22	FEDEX 783913816994	\$15.77	ANDREA SMILEY
2021/02/22	EATON FARM COOP LESLIE	\$11.14	MIKE ELLIS
2021/02/22	EATON FARM COOP MASON	\$71.50	MIKE ELLIS
2021/02/22	ZOOM.US 888-799-9666	\$484.87	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/22	AMAZON.COM*8A2RO50H3 AMZN	\$152.87	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/22	MEIJER # 025	\$65.69	JANE GREENWAY
2021/02/22	THE HOME DEPOT 2723	\$313.43	JANE GREENWAY
2021/02/22	PP*GRANDRIVERB	\$59.45	MICHAEL DEVLIN
2021/02/22	DICK'S CLOTHING&SPORTING	\$90.00	MICHAEL DEVLIN
2021/02/22	AMAZON.COM*7E00A51D3	\$37.77	MICHELLE PRINZ
2021/02/22	GFG INSTRUMENTATION INC	(\$7.50)	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/02/22	MEIJER # 025	\$104.12	CATHERINE ADAMS
2021/02/23	BELL EQUIPMENT COMPANY	\$86.95	TODD FRANK
2021/02/23	MID MICHIGAN EMERGENCY E	\$700.00	TODD FRANK
2021/02/23	AMAZON.COM AMZN.COM/BILL	(\$65.94)	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/23	AMAZON.COM AMZN.COM/BILL	(\$54.95)	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/23	AMAZON.COM AMZN.COM/BILL	(\$65.94)	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/23	AMAZON.COM AMZN.COM/BILL	(\$65.94)	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/23	PAYPAL *MFIS	\$350.00	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/02/23	PAYPAL *MFIS	\$350.00	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/02/23	PAYPAL *MFIS	\$350.00	WILLIAM PRIESE
2021/02/24	USA BLUE BOOK	\$80.80	ROBERT STACY
2021/02/24	SCHRAM AUTO TRUCK PARTS	\$330.00	JIM HANSEN
2021/02/24	PAS*PASSPT LANSING PR	\$2.32	BART CRANE
2021/02/24	OFFICEMAX/OFFICEDEPT#3379	\$19.12	KYLE FOGG
2021/02/24	ID CARDS INSTANTCARD	\$250.00	KRISTI SCHAEING
2021/02/24	MSU PAYMENTS	\$50.00	BRANDIE YATES
2021/02/24	AMAZON.COM*E24AZ0EK3 AMZN	\$460.00	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/24	AMZN MKTP US*YS0CO0IC3	\$120.96	STEPHEN GEBES
2021/02/24	AC&E RENTALS INC	\$23.50	KEITH HEWITT
2021/02/24	LANSINGSTATE JOURNAL	\$9.99	MICHELLE PRINZ
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$6,516.02</b>	

ACH Transactions

Date	Payee	Amount	Purpose
2/24/2021	Blue Care Network	\$ 6,404.79	Employee Health Insurance
	<b>Total ACH Payments</b>	<u>\$ 6,404.79</u>	



9. D.

**To: Township Board Members**  
**From: Derek N. Perry, Deputy Township Manager**  
**Director of Public Works & Engineering**  
**Robert MacKenzie, Public Works Superintendent**  
**Date: February 25, 2021**  
**Re: Disposal of Surplus Vehicles & Equipment**

---

The following Motor Pool vehicles and department equipment have been declared surplus by the Department of Public Works. We are requesting authorization to sell the vehicles at public auction, internet auction, direct sale to another municipality, or by sealed bid.

- Unit#2  
2013 Ford Taurus  
VIN# 1FAHP2M84DG124530
- Unit# 46  
2013 Ford Taurus  
VIN# 1FAHP2M88DG104071
- Unit #101  
2012 Ford Focus.  
VIN# 1FAHP3E26CL396129
- Unit #102  
2012 Ford Focus  
VIN# 1FAHP3E22CL396130
- Unit #611  
2013 Ford Taurus  
VIN# 1FAHP2MK0DG201972
- Unit#9  
2008 Sterling (10 yd. dump)  
VIN# 2F8HCHB578AZ50088
- Unit# 10  
2001 Freightliner (Vactor)  
VIN# 1FVHBXAXK2HJ69697
- Unit # 59  
1991 Trackless  
VIN# TROIMT5MT5180  
Attachments: Snow Blower,  
Straight Blade, V-Blade
- Unit# 78  
2007 Toro (60" front mount)  
Model# 270000441
- Unit# 86  
2001 455D Mower  
Model# 30433-210000937



9. D.

- Unit# 88  
1992 John Deere 1070  
Model# M1070A104851
- Ammco Drum and Rotor Lathe
- Snap-On Tire Balancer
- Flood Lights w/stand
- Water line thaw machine
- 8 Elkay drinking fountains  
Models: EZ series and EMBA series

**Proposed motion:**

**“Move to authorize the disposal of vehicle #2 (2013 Ford Taurus), vehicle #46 (2013 Ford Taurus), vehicle #101 (2012 Ford Focus), vehicle #102 (2012 Ford Focus), vehicle #611 (2013 Ford Taurus), vehicle #9 (2008 Sterling dump truck), vehicle #10 (2001 Freightliner Vactor), equipment #59 (1991 Trackless including attachments), equipment #78 (2007 Toro Mower), equipment #86 (2001 Toro 455D mower), equipment #88 (1992 John Deere 1070 Tractor), flood lights with stand, water line thaw machine, Ammoco Drum/Rotor Lathe, Snap-On tire balancer, and drinking fountains by public auction, internet auction, direct sale to another municipality or by sealed bid.”**



**To: Board Members**  
**From: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation**  
**Date: February 25, 2021**  
**Re: Section 61 Application, Park Acquisition**

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The Park Commission has been successful in receiving a grant award from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for acquisition of property on Okemos Road adjacent to Nancy Moore Park and the Meridian Service Center. In preparation of receiving the funds and executing a purchase agreement, the parcel must be reviewed by the Planning Commission as required by MCL 125.39 (section 61 review).

Property interest:

- 5280 Okemos Road, Haslett, MI 48840
  - Adjacent to Central Park/Nancy Moore Park
  - Parcel number #33-02-02-16-200-011
  - Area: 1.85 acres

**Motion for Township Board Consideration:**

MOVE TO FORWARD THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR PARK PURPOSES TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE TOWNSHIP'S COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AS REQUIRED BY MCL 125.39 (SECTION 61 REVIEW). THE SECTION 61 REVIEW IS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A 1.85-ACRE PARCEL (PARCEL #33-02-02-16-200-011) LOCATED AT 5280 OKEMOS ROAD, HASLETT. THIS SITE, WHEN ACQUIRED, WILL HOST AN IMPROVED ENTRANCE TO NANCY MOORE PARK AND SERVE AS A TRAILHEAD AREA FOR USERS OF THE PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE PATHWAY SYSTEM.

**Attachment**

1. Map of proposed acquisition in relation to Nancy Moore Park/Central Park.
2. Amendment to the Master Plan Application

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
5151 MARSH ROAD, OKEMOS, MI 48864  
PHONE: (517) 853-4560, FAX: (517) 853-4095**

**COMMISSION REVIEW:  
AMENDMENT TO MASTER PLAN APPLICATION  
(Municipal Planning Act, MCL 125.31, Section 9)**

- A. Applicant Charter Township of Meridian  
Address of Applicant 5151 Marsh Road  
Okemos MI 48864  
Telephone: Work 517-853-4610 Home n/a  
Fax 517-853-4099 Email greenway@meridian.mi.us
- B. Jurisdiction having authority (if different than applicant) n/a  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
Please provide the name of the board, commission or body having jurisdiction for the authorization of financing of the public way, ground, space, building, structure or utility.
- C. Applicant's Representative, Architect, Engineer or Planner responsible for request:  
Name / Contact Person Jane Greenway, LLA  
Address same as above  
Telephone: Work 517-853-4610 Home \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email greenway@meridian.mi.us
- D. Site location/address: 5280 Okemos Road, Haslett, MI 48840  
Zoning Classification(s) RAAA  
Parcel number(s) #33-02-02-16-200-011
- E. I (we) hereby grant permission for members of the Charter Township of Meridian's Boards and/or Commissions, Township staff member(s) and the Township's representatives or experts the right to enter onto the above described property (or as described in the attached information) in my (our) absence for the purpose of gathering information including but not limited to the taking and the use of photographs.

x Yes  No (Please check one)—Current owners are willing sellers

By the signature(s) attached hereto, I (we) certify that the information provided within this application and accompanying documentation is, to the best of my (our) knowledge, true and accurate.

Jane Greenway \_\_\_\_\_ 2/14/21  
Signature of Applicant Date

Jane L. Greenway  
Type/Print Name

Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date application submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Date application deemed complete: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of last day for decision: \_\_\_\_\_

**This form should be included with the COMMISSION REVIEW APPLICATION.  
Explain your position on the lines below, and attach supporting information.**

### **REASONS FOR MODIFYING THE MASTER PLAN**

Please explain your request to modify the Township's Master Plan for construction or authorization of a street, public utility, park, public way, ground, open space or other public building or structure on the following lines:

Supports Township Goal #2 – Preserve Open Space and Natural Areas; and #4 – Maintain and Expand Park System. In addition, this acquisition supports the Township Greenspace Plan

The location, character and extent of your request will be evaluated in accordance with the responses you provide to Questions 1-12.

1. How will the request if approved be consistent with current development trends in the Township?

The acquisition of this parcel will preserve open space in the Township and support the Township Greenspace plan and the Township Master Plan.

2. How does the request further the Township Master Plan goals to:
  - Preserve and strengthen existing and future residential neighborhoods
  - Preserve open space and natural areas
  - Maintain the viability of Meridian Township businesses
  - Maintain and expand a diverse park system
  - Maintain essential public services
  - Provide and support an efficient, safe and environmentally sensitive multi-modal transportation system
  - Maintain and enhance the Township's growth management program

This acquisition will preserve the area in perpetuity. It will also preserve open space and natural areas and maintain and expand a diverse park system. The 1.85 acre parcel lies between an existing large park (Central Park) and two land preserves. The Greenspace Plan identifies this area as part of an overall green corridor, which is important for both human enjoyment and for the flora and fauna. The final plans for the development of this acquisition have not been completed, but it could serve as an important spot for respite along the pathway system. Existing large shade trees provide a park like setting for benches and a small restroom building. This parcel will also provide an improved entrance to Nancy Moore Park.

3. Is the request supported by surveys or studies of the present conditions and future needs of the Township? If yes, please attach a copy of the survey and/or study.

It is supported by Township Board Goal #2 to preserve open space and natural areas in the Township. Strategy 1 under section A of this goal includes the public purchase of land.

4. How does the request promote the health, safety and general welfare of the Township public?

It adds to an area of greenspace near an existing park, land preservation area, and along a popular pathway system. There are many nearby residential areas along Okemos Road in this location.

5. How does the request promote the best use of time, effort and resources in the development of the Township?

This 1.85 acre parcel will be acquired through the use of the Park Millage Funds and State grant funding. Grant applications are prepared in house by Township staff. Park Maintenance is conducted by staff.

6. How does the request promote wise and efficient expenditures of Township Public funds?

The Township Board and Park Commission have deemed that the acquisition of this parcel is a wise expenditure of the Park Millage match funds because it borders Central Park, Southwest Meridian Uplands Preserve, Hubbel Preserve, and the regional pathway system thus providing a valuable buffer.

7. How does the request impact traffic in the Township?

N/A

8. How does the request impact the public's safety from fire and other dangers in the Township?

N/A

9. How does the request impact the light and air in the Township?

Open space with vegetation improves air quality.

10. How does the request impact the population distribution in the Township?

N/A

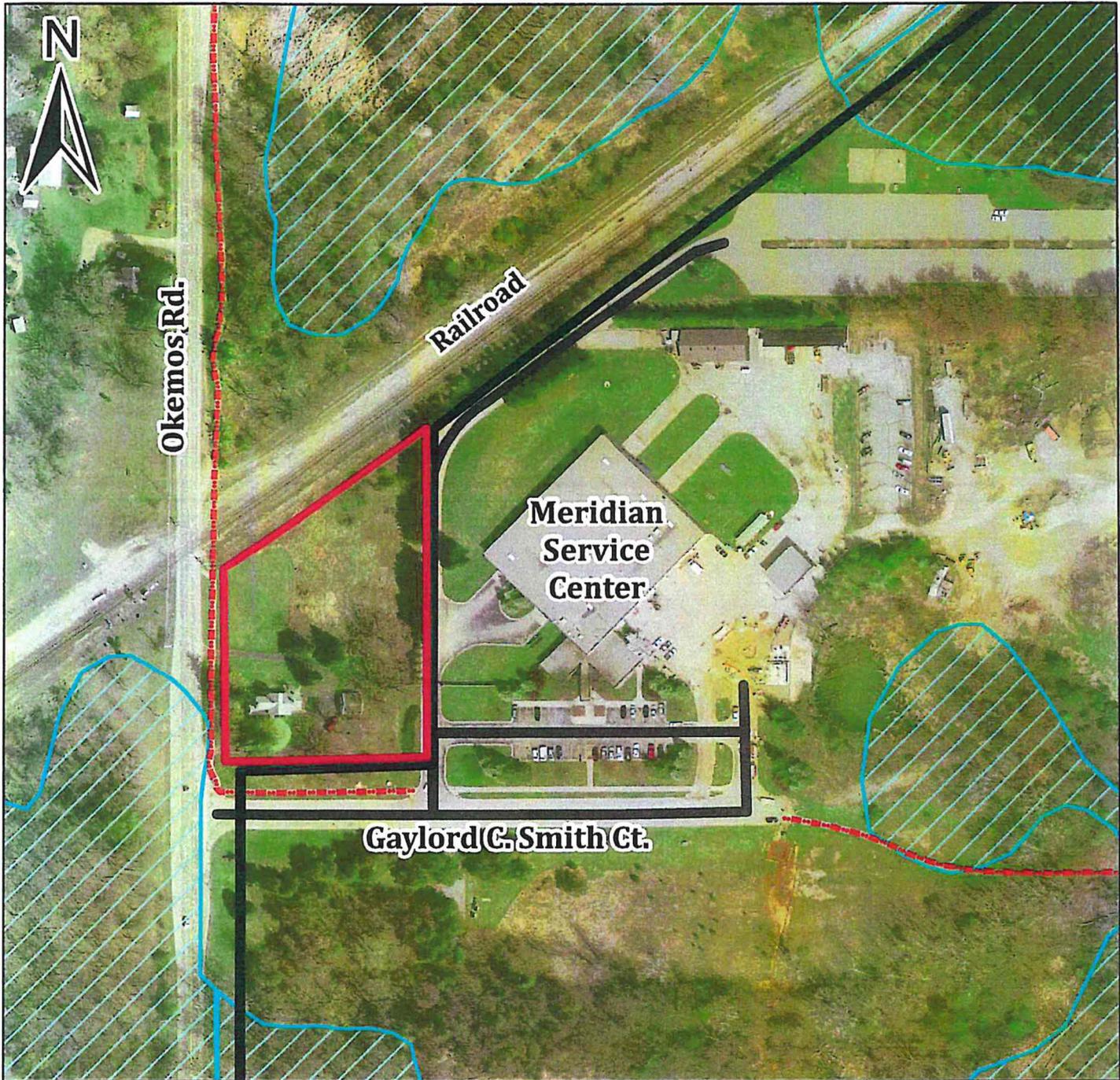
11. How does the request promote good public design and arrangement in the Township?

The parcel will increase the size of Central Park and also provides a link between Central Park and two Land Preserves. It is also located along a regional pathway system.

12. How does the request impact public utilities and other public services in the Township?

N/A

# 5280 Okemos Rd.



## Legend

-  Nancy Moore Park
-  Driveway
-  Paved Pathway
-  Wetland

0 0.025 0.05 0.1 Miles

**Subject property outlined in red**  
**Parcel Number: 33-02-02-16-200-011**  
**Area: 1.86 acres**



**To: Board Members**

**From: Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk**

**Date: February 26, 2021**

**Re: Approve the resolution to change Precinct 15 Polling Location from Meridian Senior Center to Kinawa Middle School and Precinct 10 Polling Location from Meridian Service Center to Wardcliff School for the May 4, 2021 Special Election only**

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Due to COVID-19 concerns, ADA compliance concerns and complaints received from voters, I recommend that Precinct 10 be temporarily relocated to the Wardcliff gymnasium with Precinct 12 and Precinct 15 be temporarily relocated to the Kinawa Middle School gymnasium for the May 4, 2021 Special Election only.

I have reviewed the physical space and availability with Okemos Public Schools Director of Operations Mark Fargo, Meridian Township Director of Engineering Derek Perry, and Meridian Township Public Works Superintendent Rob Mackenzie. Okemos Public Schools Superintendent John Hood has confirmed Okemos Public Schools desire to help Meridian Township in any way it can for the Special Election. We have confirmed the availability of these spaces for May 4th and the space that the gymnasiums have to offer will allow for proper spacing of election equipment, the utmost social distancing on Election Day and greater compliance to meet accessibility needs.

If the resolution is approved by the Township Board, voters in Precincts 10 and 15 would be notified immediately via mail and the Clerk's Office will work to post notifications at physical locations and through the Township's website, local paper and social media.

A motion is prepared for the Board's consideration:

Move to approve the resolution for the temporary relocation of Precinct 10 from the Meridian Township Service Center to Precinct 12; Wardcliff School and to approve the temporary relocation of Precinct 15 from the Meridian Township Senior Center to Precinct 7; Kinawa School for the May 4, 2021 Special Election

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE**

**RESOLUTION TO CHANGE PRECINCT  
LOCATIONS FOR MAY 4, 2021 SPECIAL ELECTION**

**RESOLUTION TO CHANGE PRECINCT 10 POLLING LOCATION FROM THE MERIDIAN SERVICE  
CENTER TO WARDCLIFF GYMNASIUM SCHOOL AND PRECINCT 15 POLLING LOCATION FROM  
THE MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER TO KINAWA MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM FOR THE MAY 4,  
2021 SPECIAL ELECTION**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, in said Township on the 2nd day of March, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following resolution was offered by \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, Michigan election law requires that the legislative body in each township designate or prescribe the place or places of holding an election for the township; and

**WHEREAS**, Michigan election law requires that the legislative body in each township provide a suitable polling place in or for each precinct located in the township; and

**WHEREAS**, The Township Clerk's office was advised that the established polling location for Precinct 10 at the Meridian Service Center and Precinct 15 at the Meridian Senior Center parking lot and facility poses difficulties; and

**WHEREAS**, Kinawa Middle School Gymnasium is a much more accessible and convenient location and is available and suitable as a polling location for Precinct 15 for the May 4, 2021 Special Election; and

**WHEREAS**, Wardcliff School Gymnasium is a much more accessible and convenient location and is available and suitable as a polling location for Precinct 10 for the May 4, 2021 Special Election; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the recommendation of the Township's Election Commission the Meridian Township Board desires to temporarily change the polling location for Precinct 10 from the Meridian Service Center to Wardcliff School and Precinct 15 from the Meridian Senior Center to Kinawa Middle School for the May 4, 2021 Special Election in Meridian Township;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that, effective immediately, the Meridian Township Board hereby moves Precinct 10 from the Meridian Service Center to Wardcliff School and Precinct 15 from the Meridian Senior Center to Kinawa Middle School for the May 4, 2021 Special Election in Meridian Township which shall remain as designated only for the May 4, 2021 Special Election and after said election shall return to Meridian Service Center and Meridian Senior Center, until such time as modified in the manner prescribed by law.





**DATE:** March 2, 2021

**TO:** Township Board Members

**FROM:** Derek N. Perry, Deputy Township Manager  
Director of Public Works & Engineering  
Younes Ishraidi, Chief Engineer

**RE:** Powell Road Public Road Improvement SAD #43-Resolution #3

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In early 2018, the developer of Silverstone Estates, Mayberry Homes, received approval for their Tentative Preliminary Plat. As part of that approval, a condition was placed that required the paving of Powell Road from the northern extent of the plat southward to Grand River. To facilitate this requirement, the developer has requested the implementation of a special assessment district (SAD).

As the Township Board is aware, we require the circulation of a petition to the potentially impacted residents with more than 50% being in support of the project prior to the consideration of a SAD. We have received a petition for the paving of Powell Road with signatures representing 62.43% of the total frontage amongst sixteen (16) parcels. This frontage along Powell Road represents 1,576 feet from Grand River Avenue to the northern plat line of the Silverstone Subdivision. A map is included for your reference.

The total estimated project cost is \$460,000. The road design has been completed by the developer's engineers, and approved by the Ingham County Road Department. The high cost for this small section of roadway are being driven by extremely poor soils in the existing roadbed. Using the \$460,000 estimate, we calculate that the assessments will range from \$8,849.40 to \$81,815.65 depending on the road frontage of each parcel. The specific assessment for each parcel can be found on the proposed attached assessment roll.

Typically, we utilize the Township Infrastructure Revolving Fund (TIRF) to provide the funding for a project and the fund is reimbursed over time by the individual assessments. With this project, the initial cost of constructing the road will be borne by the developer, Mayberry Homes doing business as Powell Road Holdings LLC. Upon completion of the paving project, the developer will be able to receive a portion of the construction costs back to them for the six (6) parcels that are used for commercial purposes or as rental property. Those parcels include: 3302-02-22-276-009, 3302-02-22-426-007, 3302-02-23-301-001, 3302-02-23-301-003, 3302-02-23-301-004, 3302-02-23-301-012. The total assessed amount eligible for reimbursement to the developer is \$204,002.27 and will be provide by the TIRF.



12.A.

The remaining ten (10) parcels will not be eligible for reimbursement and will be the financial responsibility of the developer. Those parcels include four (4) residential-non rental parcels (3302-02-22-276-006; 3302-02-22-276-007; 3302-02-22-426-003; 3302-02-22-426-004) and the six (6) future parcels (includes Silverstone Way road width) of the Silverstone Subdivision parent parcel (3302-02-23-151-001) totaling \$256,001.35.

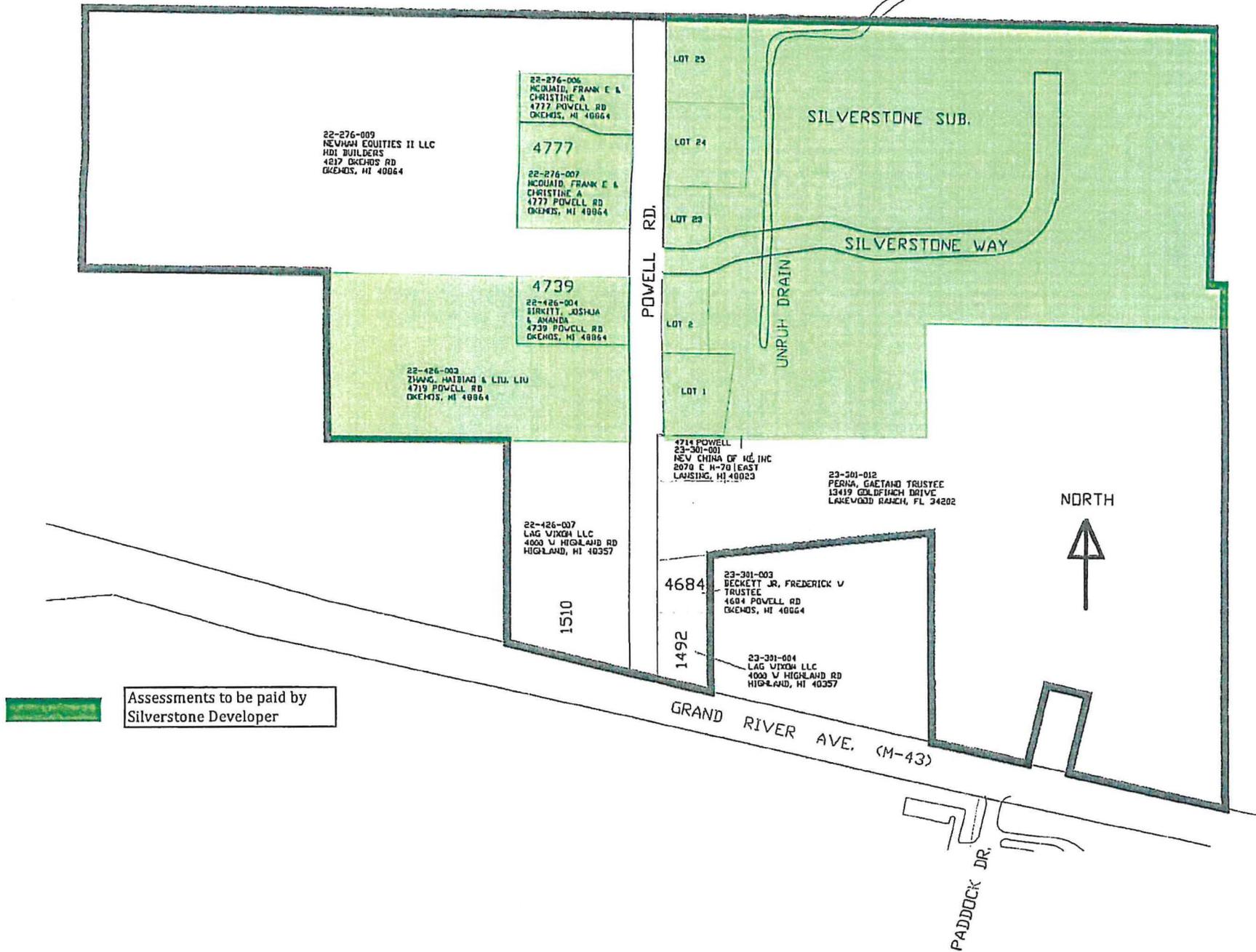
The public hearing for this project was held on February 23, 2021.

**Proposed Motion:**

**“Move to approve Powell Road Public Road Improvements Special Assessment District #43 Resolution #3; to approve the improvements to grade, gravel and pave Powell Road, and be completed by the owner of Silverstone Subdivision; and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefitted thereby in the manner previously listed; approve the total estimated cost of \$\$460,003.62; and approve the special assessment district.”**

Attachments.

# POWELL ROAD PAVING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT



Assessments to be paid by Silverstone Developer

**POWELL ROAD PUBLIC ROAD IMPROVEMENT  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT #43**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held in the Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198, on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

The following resolution was offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
and supported by \_\_\_\_\_.

**WHEREAS**, The Township Board, pursuant to the provisions of Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, did on January 19, 2021, adopt a resolution tentatively approving the construction of certain public road improvements on Powell Road, from Grand River Avenue north approximately 1,576 feet to the north plat line of Silverstone Subdivision; by grading, graveling, and paving and to be completed by the owner of Silverstone Subdivision; and the establishment of a special assessment district for the purpose of paying the cost thereof, which special assessment district is more specifically hereinafter described; and

**WHEREAS**, the Powell Road Public Road Improvement Special Assessment District No. 43 is being established to partially reimburse the owner of Silverstone Subdivision (3302-02-23-151-001) for the construction of the Powell Road Public Road Improvement SAD #43.

**WHEREAS**, after road construction has been completed by the owner, Mayberry Homes doing business as Powell Road Holdings, LLC, the Township will assess the following six (6) parcels: 3302-02-22-276-009, 3302-02-22-426-007, 3302-02-23-301-001, 3302-02-23-301-003, 3302-02-23-301-004, 3302-02-23-301-012 for their share of the Powell Road Public Road Improvement Special Assessment District #43, and reimburse the owner of Silverstone Subdivision for these six assessments. The owner of Silverstone Subdivision will not be reimbursed for the remaining four (4) parcels (3302-02-22-276-006; 3302-02-22-276-007; 3302-02-22-426-003; 3302-02-22-426-004) nor the 6 future parcels (including Silverstone Way road width) of the Silverstone Subdivision (parent parcel 3302-02-23-151-001) and shall be responsible for their portion of the assessment.

**WHEREAS**, the Township Board did meet on February 23, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., the time, date and place set by the Board to hold a public hearing to hear any objections to the improvement and to the special assessment district therefore; and

**WHEREAS**, estimates of cost of said project are on file with the Township Clerk, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Township Board hereby approves the construction of the following described improvement: grade, gravel and pave Powell Road, from Grand River north approximately 1,576 feet to the north plat line of Silverstone Subdivision, and to defray the cost of by special assessment against the properties specially benefited thereby in the manner previously listed in this resolution.
2. The Township Board hereby approves the estimate of cost in the sum of \$460,003.62.

3. The Township Board finally determines that the special assessment district shall be described as follows:

(SEE ATTACHED PROPERTY DESCRIPTIONS)

4. The Supervisor is hereby directed to make a special assessment roll in which shall be described all the parcels of land to be assessed as set forth with the names of the owners thereof if known, and the total amount to be assessed against each parcel of land which amount shall be such relative portion of the whole sum to be levied against all parcels of land in the assessment district as the benefit to such parcel bears to the total benefit of all parcels of land in the special assessment district. The term of the special assessment district shall continue until the special assessments, as approved or modified, have been collected in full.
5. When the Supervisor shall have completed the special assessment roll there shall be affixed thereto a certificate stating that said roll was made pursuant to a resolution of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian adopted March 2, 2021, and that in making the assessment roll the Supervisor has, according to his best judgement, conformed in all respects to the directions contained in said resolution and the statutes of the State of Michigan and the Supervisor shall then report the special assessment roll with the certificate attached thereto, to the Township Board.
6. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

**YEAS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAYS:** \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution declared adopted.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN)**

**)ss.**

**COUNTY OF INGHAM)**

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, **DO HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of proceedings taken by the Township Board at a regular meeting held on March 2, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk

**POWELL ROAD PUBLIC ROAD IMPROVEMENTS  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 43**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**3302-02-22-276-006            4777 POWELL**

M22-5-1 BEG AT PT ON E LINE OF SEC 22 329.81 FT NORTH OF THE E ¼ COR SEC 22-S 89 DEG 20'42"W, 114.20 FT-N 15.45 FT-N 82 DEG 33'09"W, 62.33 FT- S 89 DEG 20'42"W, 125.99 FT-N 115.08 FT-N 89 DEG 20'42"E, 302 FT TO E SEC LN-S 139.31 FT ON E SEC LN TO THE POB SEC 22 T4NR1W .87 AC M/L.

**3302-02-22-276-007            4777 POWELL**

M22-5-1 BEG AT PT ON E LINE OF SEC 22 115.39 FT N OF E ¼ COR-S 89 DEG 20'42"W 302 FT-N 238.65 FT-N89 DEG 20'42"E, 125.99 FT-N 82 DEG 33'09"E, 62.33 FT - S 15.45 FT, -N89DEG 20'42"E, 114.20 FT-S ON E SEC LN 214.42 FT TO THE POB SEC 22 T4NR1W 1.58 AC M/L.

**3302-02-22-276-009**

THAT PART OF SE ¼ OF NE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N, R1W DESC AS: BEG AT E ¼ COR OF SEC 22-N00D01'26"E ALG E SEC LN 115.39 FT-S89D39'17"W 302.01 FT-N00D 01'26"E 353.73 FT - N 89D39'17"E 302.01 FT TO E SEC LN-N00D01'26"E ALG SD E LN 647.57 FT - S89D 52'32"W 208 FT-N 00D 01' 26"E 208 FT TO S LN OF CENTRAL PARK ESTATES SUBD-S89D 52'32"W ALG SD S LN 416.03 FT - S00D 39'51W 438.26 FT-S89D52'32"W 580 FT- S00D 39'51"W 66.01 FT - S 89D 52'32"W 109.19 FT- S00D 02'20"E 818.62 FT TO EW ¼ LN - N 89D57'21"E ALG EW ¼ LN 1317.96 FT TO POB 29.494 A M/L.

**3302-02-22-426-003            4719 POWELL**

M22-17 BEG 164 FT S FROM E ¼ POST OF SEC 22-W265.6 FT-N 164 FT- W 476.4 FT - S 396 FT-E 742 FT TO E SEC LINE - N 232 FT TO BEG ON SE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N, R1W - 5A M/L.

**3302-02-22-426-004            4739 POWELL**

M22-17-1 BEG AT E ¼ POST OF SEC - W 265.6 FT - S 164 FT - E 265.6 FT-N164 FT TO BEG., ON SE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N R1W.

**3302-02-22-426-007            1510 GRAND RIVER**

M22-19 BEG 24 RDS S OF E ¼ POST OF SEC 22, - W PLL WITH E & W ¼ LINE 321 FT - S PLL WITH E LINE OF SAID SEC TO CEN LINE OF GRAND RIVER ROAD - SE'LY ALONG SAID CEN LINE TO E LINE OF SAID SEC - N'LY ALONG SAID E SEC LINE TO BEG ON SE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N 41W = 4 A. M/L.

**3302-02-23-301-001            4714 POWELL**

M23-9-2 BEG ON W LINE OF SEC 23 AT PT 470 FT N OF N LINE OF GRAND RIVER AVE - N ALONG SAID W SEC LINE 110 FT - E 233 FT - S 110 FT - W 233 FT TO BEG ON SW ¼ OF SEC 23, T4N, R12.

**3302-02-23-301-003            4684 POWELL**

M23-12-2 BEG 152.68 FT N OF INTER OF N'LY LINE OF US-16 HWY & W LINE OF SEC 23 - N 117.32 FT - N 83 DEG E 158 FT-S 136.6 FT - W 156.07 FT TO BEG., ON SW ¼ OF SEC 23, T4N, R1W.

**3302-02-23-301-004            1492 GRAND RIVER**

M23-12-3 BEG AT INTER OF N'LY LINE OF US-16 HWY & W LINE OF SEC 23 - N 152.68 FT-E 156.07 FT - S 188 FT TO N'LY LINE OF US-16 HWY AT PT 158 FT FROM BEG - N 77 DEG W 158 FT TO BEG., ON SW ¼ OF SEC 23, T4N, R1W.

**3302-02-23-301-012**

(M23-9,23-10-1) PART OF SW ¼ OF SEC 23 T4N, R1W DESC AS: COM AT W ¼ COR OF SEC 23-S00D 19'35"E ALNG W SEC LN 493.12 FT TO POB -N89D 35'16"E 233 FT-N00D 22'30"W 110.32 FT - N89D35'16"E 435.17 FT - N00D 19'35"W 279.61 FT-N89D 51'33"E 691.98 FT-S00D 15'17"E 1180.22 FT TO N LN OF GRAND RIVER AVE-ALNG SD N LN N77D 00'07"W 373.91 FT-N12D59'53"E 200FT - N7D 00'07"W 100 FT-S12D 59'53"W 200 FT - N 77D00'07"W ALNG N LN OF GRAND RIVER AVE 235.69 FT - N 00D 19'35"W 510.28 FT-S82D40'24"W 673 FT-N00D 19'35"W ALNG W SEC LN 199.71 FT TO POB 20.53 A M/L.

**LOT 1, SILVERSTONE ESTATES  
LOT 2, SILVERSTONE ESTATES  
LOT 23, SILVERSTONE ESTATES  
LOT 24, SILVERSTONE ESTATES  
LOT 25, SILVERSTONE ESTATES  
SILVERSTONE WAY ROW**

**POWELL ROAD PUBLIC ROAD IMPROVEMENTS  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 43  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL**

The Powell Road Public Road Improvement Special Assessment District No. 43 is being established to partially reimburse the owner of Silverstone Subdivision (3302-02-23-151-001) for the construction of the Powell Road Public Road Improvement SAD #43.

After road construction has been completed by the owner, Mayberry Homes doing business as Powell Road Holdings LLC, the Township will assess the following six (6) parcels: 3302-02-22-276-009, 3302-02-22-426-007, 3302-02-23-301-001, 3302-02-23-301-003, 3302-02-23-301-004, 3302-02-23-301-012 for their share of the Powell Road Public Road Improvement Special Assessment District #43, and reimburse the owner of Silverstone Subdivision for these six assessments. The owner of Silverstone Subdivision will not be reimbursed for the remaining four (4) parcels (3302-02-22-276-006; 3302-02-22-276-007; 3302-02-22-426-003; 3302-02-22-426-004) nor the 6 future parcels (including Silverstone Way road width) of the Silverstone Subdivision (parent parcel 3302-02-23-151-001) and shall be responsible for their portion of the assessment.

**3302-02-22-276-009**

**Owner: Newman EquitiesII LLC, HDI Builders,4217 Okemos Rd, Okemos, MI 48864**

**Frontage: 252.5**

**Assessment: \$37,241.23**

THAT PART OF SE ¼ OF NE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N, R1W DESC AS: BEG AT E ¼ COR OF SEC 22-N00D01'26"E ALG E SEC LN 115.39 FT-S89D39'17"W 302.01 FT-N00D 01'26"E 353.73 FT - N 89D39'17"E 302.01 FT TO E SEC LN-N00D01'26"E ALG SD E LN 647.57 FT - S89D 52'32"W 208 FT-N 00D 01' 26"E 208 FT TO S LN OF CENTRAL PARK ESTATES SUBD-S89D 52'32"W ALG SD S LN 416.03 FT - S00D 39'51W 438.26 FT-S89D52'32"W 580 FT- S00D 39'51"W 66.01 FT - S 89D 52'32"W 109.19 FT- S00D 02'20"E 818.62 FT TO EW ¼ LN - N 89D57'21"E ALG EW ¼ LN 1317.96 FT TO POB 29.494 A M/L.

**3302-02-22-426-007**

**1510 GRAND RIVER**

**Owner: LAG Wixom, LLC, 4000 W. Highland Rd, Highland, MI 48357**

**Frontage: 554.72**

**Assessment: \$81,815.65**

M22-19 BEG 24 RDS S OF E ¼ POST OF SEC 22, - W PLL WITH E & W ¼ LINE 321 FT - S PLL WITH E LINE OF SAID SEC TO CEN LINE OF GRAND RIVER ROAD - SE'LY ALONG SAID CEN LINE TO E LINE OF SAID SEC - N'LY ALONG SAID E SEC LINE TO BEG ON SE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N 41W = 4 A. M/L.

**3302-02-23-301-001**

**4714 POWELL**

**Owner: New China of MI, Inc., 2078 E. M-78, East Lansing, MI 48823**

**Frontage: 111.47**

**Assessment: \$16,440.71**

M23-9-2 BEG ON W LINE OF SEC 23 AT PT 470 FT N OF N LINE OF GRAND RIVER AVE - N ALONG SAID W SEC LINE 110 FT - E 233 FT - S 110 FT - W 233 FT TO BEG ON SW ¼ OF SEC 23, T4N, R12.

**3302-02-23-301-003**

**4684 POWELL**

**Owner: Frederick W. Beckett Jr. Trustee, 4684 Powell Rd, Okemos, MI 48864**

**Frontage: 112.11**

**Assessment: \$16,535.10**

M23-12-2 BEG 152.68 FT N OF INTER OF N'LY LINE OF US-16 HWY & W LINE OF SEC 23 - N 117.32 FT - N 83 DEG E 158 FT-S 136.6 FT - W 156.07 FT TO BEG., ON SW ¼ OF SEC 23, T4N, R1W.

**3302-02-23-301-004**

**1492 GRAND RIVER**

**Owner: LAG Wixom, LLC, 4000 W. Highland Rd, Highland, MI 48357**

**Frontage: 152.20**

**Assessment: \$22,447.98**

M23-12-3 BEG AT INTER OF N'LY LINE OF US-16 HWY & W LINE OF SEC 23 - N 152.68 FT-E 156.07 FT - S 188 FT TO N'LY LINE OF US-16 HWY AT PT 158 FT FROM BEG - N 77 DEG W 158 FT TO BEG., ON SW ¼ OF SEC 23, T4N, R1W.

**3302-02-23-301-012**

**Owner: Gaetano Perna Trustee,13419 Goldfinch Dr, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202**

**Frontage: 200.16**

**Assessment: \$29,521.60**

(M23-9,23-10-1) PART OF SW ¼ OF SEC 23 T4N, R1W DESC AS: COM AT W ¼ COR OF SEC 23-S00D 19'35"E ALNG W SEC LN 493.12 FT TO POB -N89D 35'16"E 233 FT-N00D 22'30"W 110.32 FT -N89D35'16"E 435.17 FT - N00D 19'35"W 279.61 FT- N89D 51'33"E 691.98 FT-S00D 15'17"E 1180.22 FT TO N LN OF GRAND RIVER AVE-ALNG SD N LN N77D 00'07"W 373.91 FT- N12D59'53"E 200FT - N7D 00'07"W 100 FT-S12D 59'53"W 200 FT - N 77D00'07"W ALNG N LN OF GRAND RIVER AVE 235.69 FT - N 00D 19'35"W 510.28 FT-S82D40'24"W 673 FT-N00D 19'35"W ALNG W SEC LN 199.71 FT TO POB 20.53 A M/L.

**POWELL ROAD PUBLIC ROAD IMPROVEMENTS  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 43  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL  
Page 2**

**TO BE PAID BY OWNER OF SILVERSTONE SUBDIVISION, POWELL ROAD HOLDINGS, LLC:**

<b>3302-02-22-276-006</b>	<b>4777 POWELL</b>	<b>Owner: Frank E &amp; Christine A. McQuaid, 4777 Powell Rd, Okemos, MI 48864</b>
	<b>Frontage: 139.31</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$20,546.83</u></b>
M22-5-1 BEG AT PT ON E LINE OF SEC 22 329.81 FT NORTH OF THE E ¼ COR SEC 22-S 89 DEG 20'42"W, 114.20 FT-N 15.45 FT-N 82 DEG 33'09"W, 62.33 FT- S 89 DEG 20'42"W, 125.99 FT-N 115.08 FT-N 89 DEG 20'42"E, 302 FT TO E SEC LN-S 139.31 FT ON E SEC LN TO THE POB SEC 22 T4NR1W .87 AC M/L.		
<b>3302-02-22-276-007</b>	<b>4777 POWELL</b>	<b>Owner: Frank E &amp; Christine A. McQuaid, 4777 Powell Rd, Okemos, MI 48864</b>
	<b>Frontage: 214.4</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$31,621.86</u></b>
M22-5-1 BEG AT PT ON E LINE OF SEC 22 115.39 FT N OF E ¼ COR-S 89 DEG 20'42"W 302 FT-N 238.65 FT-N89 DEG 20'42"E, 125.99 FT-N 82 DEG 33'09"E, 62.33 FT - S 15.45 FT, -N89DEG 20'42"E, 114.20 FT-S ON E SEC LN 214.42 FT TO THE POB SEC 22 T4NR1W 1.58 AC M/L.		
<b>3302-02-22-426-003</b>	<b>4719 POWELL</b>	<b>Owner: Haibiao Zhang &amp; Liu Liu, 4719 Powell Rd, Okemos, MI 48864</b>
	<b>Frontage: 241.61</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$35,635.06</u></b>
M22-17 BEG 164 FT S FROM E ¼ POST OF SEC 22-W265.6 FT-N 164 FT- W 476.4 FT - S 396 FT-E 742 FT TO E SEC LINE - N 232 FT TO BEG ON SE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N, R1W - 5A M/L.		
<b>3302-02-22-426-004</b>	<b>4739 POWELL</b>	<b>Owner: Joshua &amp; Amanda Birkitt, 4739 Powell Rd, Okemos, MI 48864</b>
	<b>Frontage: 164</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$24,188.36</u></b>
M22-17-1 BEG AT E ¼ POST OF SEC - W 265.6 FT - S 164 FT - E 265.6 FT-N164 FT TO BEG., ON SE ¼ OF SEC 22, T4N R1W		
<b>3302-02-23-151-001</b>		<b>Owner: Powell Road Holdings, LLC,1650 Kendale Blvd,Ste200, East Lansing, MI 48823</b>
	<b>LOT 1, SILVERSTONE ESTATES, Frontage: 190</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$28,023.10</u></b>
	<b>LOT 2, SILVERSTONE ESTATES, Frontage: 179.4</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$26,459.71</u></b>
	<b>LOT 23, SILVERSTONE ESTATES, Frontage: 167</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$24,630.83</u></b>
	<b>LOT 24, SILVERSTONE ESTATES, Frontage: 190</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$28,023.10</u></b>
	<b>LOT 25, SILVERSTONE ESTATES, Frontage: 190</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$28,023.10</u></b>
	<b>SILVERSTONE WAY ROW, Frontage: 60</b>	<b>Assessment: <u>\$ 8,849.40</u></b>
<b>TOTAL ASSESSMENTS</b>		<b><u>\$460,003.62</u></b>



12. B

**To: Board Members**  
**From: Ronald J. Styka, Township Supervisor**  
**Date: February 26, 2021**  
**Re: Resolution Celebrating Women's History Month**

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Women's history month is an annual observance in the United States during the month of March. The attached document has been drafted for Township Board approval. Our diversity is something we welcome, embrace and celebrate in Meridian Township.

A motion is prepared for Board consideration:

**MOVE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.**

**Attachment:**

1. Resolution Commemorating Women's History Month

**RESOLUTION CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2021, at 6:00 pm local time.

PRESENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

The following resolution was offered by \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways;

**WHEREAS**, American women have played and continue to play critical economic, cultural, and social roles in every sphere of the life of the Nation, by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home;

**WHEREAS**, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation, by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation;

**WHEREAS**, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation;

**WHEREAS**, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement;

**WHEREAS**, American women have served our country courageously in the military;

**WHEREAS**, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which have created a more fair and just society for all;

**WHEREAS**, despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history;

**WHEREAS**, women have played and continue to play a major role in the governing of the Charter Township of Meridian, serving on numerous Boards and Commissions and as the Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk, and Trustee throughout the Township's history; and

**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States passed a resolution in 1987 and in every successive year since then designating that March is "Women's History Month," calling upon the

people of the United States to observe and honor the role of women in the Nation with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN,** that Meridian Township shall observe the month of March, 2021, as “Women’s History Month.”

ADOPTED:      YEAS:  
                     NAYS:

STATE OF MICHIGAN            )  
  ) ss  
COUNTY OF INGHAM            )

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2021.

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Deborah Guthrie, Clerk  
Charter Township of Meridian



**To:** Township Board  
**From:** Mark Kieselbach, Community Planning & Development Director  
**Date:** February 24, 2021  
**Re:** 6503 Park Lake Road Open Space Easement

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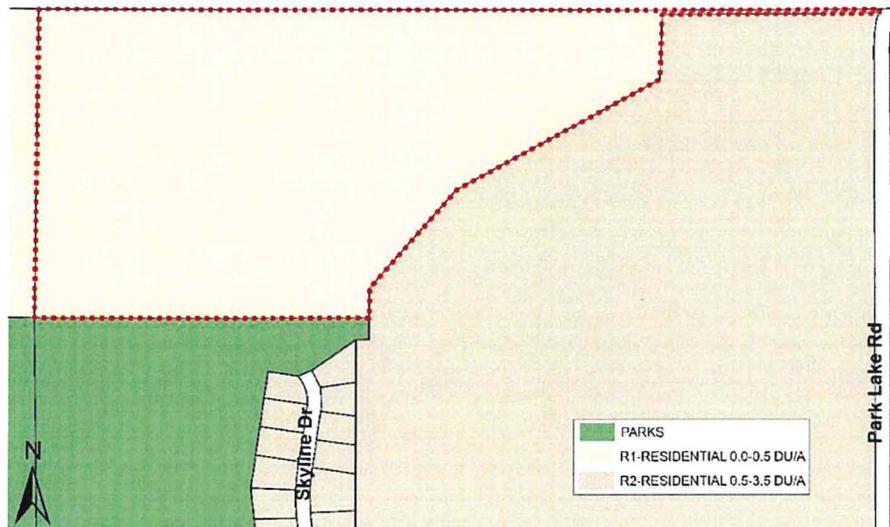
David and Joan Johnson (NJ Halmich Sod Nurseries, Inc.) 6503 Park Lake Road has submitted an application for a local open space easement, Part 361 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program. A local open space easement is a temporary restriction on the land between the local government and the land owner, voluntarily entered into by the landowner, preserving their land as open space in exchange for certain benefits and exemptions for various special assessments.

**Location**



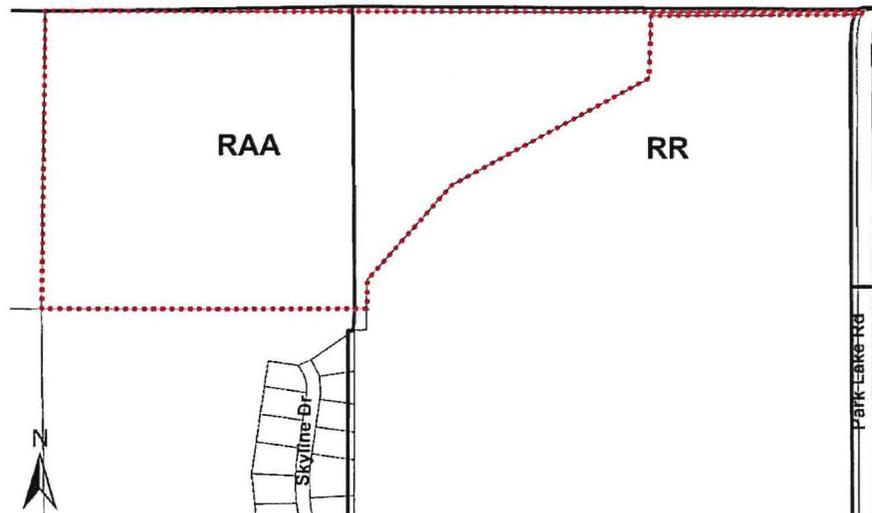
The approximate 57 acre parcel is located west of Park Lake Road and northwest of the former Walnut Hills golf course. For many years the land was used as a sod farm. More recently the land has been used to grow agricultural crops. There are two houses and three accessory buildings located on the parcel.

### Future Land Use Map



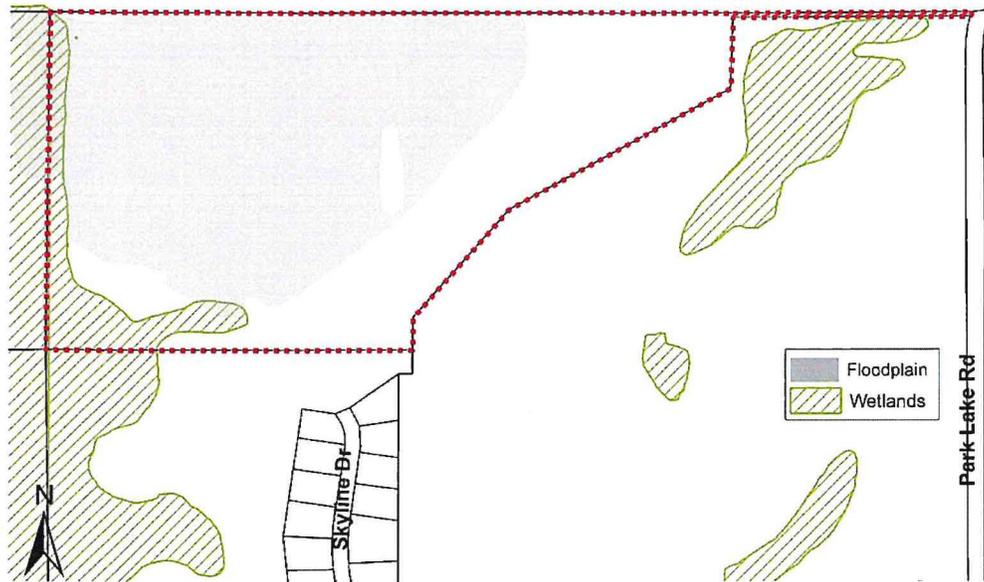
The Future Land Use Map from the 2017 Master Plan designates the subject Site in the in the R-1 Residential category.

### Zoning Map



The eastern 17 acres of the parcel is zoned RR (Rural Residential). The western 40 acres is zoned RAA (Single Family, Low Density).

### Floodplain/ Wetland Map



Both floodplain and wetland are located on the subject site.

### Land Preservation Map



The Township Land Preservation property is to the south and west of the subject site.

**Process:**

A property owner desiring a local open space easement starts by filing an application provided by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) with the local governing body (Township). Upon receipt of the application the Township must notify Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, Ingham Conservation District and the City of East Lansing of the request. The entity receiving the notice has 30 days to review, comment and make recommendations to the Township. No comments have been received from the reviewing entities at this time. The Township Board within 45 days after the application was filed with the Township must approve or deny the application.

If the application is approved by the Township Board the Township must prepare the easement containing the following provisions:

- A structure shall not be built on the land without the approval of the Township Board.
- An improvement to the land shall not be made without the approval of the Township Board.
- An interest in the land shall not be sold, except for a scenic, access, or utility easement that does not substantially hinder the character of the open space land.
- Public access to the open space land may be provided if agreed upon by the owner and if access will not jeopardize the conditions of the land.
- Any other condition or restriction on the land as agreed to by both parties that are considered necessary to preserve the land or appropriate portions of it as open space land.

If the application is denied by the Township Board the applicant and the reviewing entities must be provided with a written statement of the reasons for the denial. The applicant within 30 days after receipt of the denial may appeal the decision of the Township Board to the MDARD.

**Length of the Easement:**

The local open space easement is for a minimum of 10 years and a maximum of 90 years. The applicant has requested the easement run for 90 years.

**Enrollment in the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program**

**Tax Credits:**

Benefits under the open space agreement depend on the tax assessed against the parcel and the landowner's income. The landowner is entitled to claim Michigan Income Tax Credit equal to the amount of property taxes on the land and improvements covered by the agreement, less 3.5 percent of the landowner's total household income. Township Assessor, David Lee, has done an estimate of the market value of the parcel and the associated development rights. The estimate is attached to the memo.

**Special Assessments:**

- Land under an agreement is exempt from special assessments for sanitary sewers, water, lights, or non-farm drainage, unless the assessments were imposed prior to the enrollment of the land in the agreement.
- If the landowner decides to make use of the sanitary sewer, water, lights, or non-farm drainage on land enrolled under an agreement, the landowner is required to pay the special assessment(s).
- When the agreement is terminated, the Township may require payment of the special assessment(s). This amount cannot exceed the amount the assessment(s) would have been at the initial time of the exemption and can not include any interest or penalty.

**Township Board Options**

The Township Board may approve or deny the local open space easement. The Board must make a decision on the application by its meeting on March 16, 2021 to meet 45 days required under the Act. The time can be extended by mutual agreement of the landowner and the Board.

**Attachments:**

1. Application and supporting material
2. Market Value

G:\Community Planning & Development\Planning\FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION PROGRAM\6503ParkLakeRoadOpenSpaceEasement



13 B

**To: Meridian Township Board Members**

**From: Amber Clark**  
**Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director**

**Derek N. Perry, Deputy Township Manager**  
**Director of Public Works & Engineering**

**Date: March 2, 2021**

**RE: 2021 Citizen Survey**

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Meridian Township board utilizes National Research Center (NRC) of Boulder, Colorado to conduct Citizen Surveys every three years, with the last survey in 2018. The cost of the survey was just under \$15,000 and included the traditional three part mailing to 1,600 residents and a community wide option to take the survey online.

At the February 23, 2021 the Township Board requested for staff to find reputable organizations that could assist the Township with creating, administering and analyzing a valid survey. The survey should be created and implemented as unbiased as possible.

The two examples attached for your review are from the MSU Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (MSU IPPSR) and Cobalt Community Research out of Charlotte, MI. Both organizations are capable of creating a one topic survey or multi topic survey with the deadlines we've requested (May deadline for single topic survey, June deadline for multi topic). Additionally the organizations have experience regarding the topic of marijuana in local communities.

The surveys are expected to be mailed to a sample size of 1,500 registered voters with the option to take the survey online. The information received from the sample survey results and the online results will be compared to each other to allow a full picture; the data will remain separate to ensure validity. Discussion about utilizing voter registration lists have been debated due to issues with disparity in the number of registered voters, vs total population. Typically those that are unregistered fall into groups that we categorize as marginalized which could intensify disparities in communities. Our community is estimated to have 43,000 residents with 33,980 registered voters. This information has led Cobalt Communications and MSU IPPSR to believe that they can utilize the registered voter lists to gain an accurate picture of our Township as we have a near 80% registered voter population.

### **Cobalt Community Research**

Experts in working with local units of government, schools and nonprofit organizations. Cobalt Communications is a 501 c3 non-profit coalition that helps local units of government affordably engage with their community through high quality data, and benchmarking.



#### Projects and Partners

Michigan Municipal League  
Midland Public Schools  
Charlotte Public Schools  
City of Allen Park  
City of Bloomfield Hills  
City of Midland  
City of Troy  
Dewitt Charter Township  
City of Royal Oak –recently completed a Marijuana community survey 2019

#### **Costs for one topic survey**

Cobalt Communications would charge \$10,000 for a one topic survey (this includes the cost of postage). This is with a sample size of 1500 residents. An additional \$1000 for every 1000 residents we wish to add to the sample mailing.

#### **Costs for two topic survey**

Cobalt Communications would charge \$16,000 for multi topic survey (this includes postage). This price is for a sample size of 1500 residents. An additional \$1000 for every 1000 residents we wish to add to the sample mailing.

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#### **MSU IPPSR**

Experts in implementing unbiased high quality survey data in a cost effective way. MSU IPPSR provides design, strategy and analysis for the survey as well as assist in the formatting of the survey to provide as unbiased data as possible.

#### Current Projects

Ann Arbor Deer Management Evaluation  
Lake State Dairy Business Viability Study  
Logistics and Transportation in Michigan  
State of the State Survey

#### Previous Work

Saginaw Community Survey 2015  
Grand Traverse Bay Watershed 2014  
Tri County Regional Affordable Housing Study  
Detroit Community Survey 2015

**Cost for One Topic Survey \$1.10/ per mailing (includes business reply) 1,500 residents= \$1650**

According to MSU the costs to create a one topic survey vs. multi topic survey is the same. Their cost estimate is based on the cost of postage. Should the township board plan to utilize a sample size of the community for a direct mailing the cost is \$1.10 per unit.



**ADDITIONAL FEES:**

MSU IPPSR also has an indirect costs surcharge as a part of the university. This is a 26% increase to the total cost of the project. MSU has a policy for municipalities that they can adopt an indirect costs policy stating what percent of indirect costs they will pay and MSU will accept that amount.

**Attachments:**

- Communications Clerk Guthrie Registered Voters
- Communications Cobalt Communications
- Cobalt Communications Survey Examples
- Communications MSU IPPSR

**From:** [Deborah Guthrie](#)  
**To:** [Amber Clark](#)  
**Cc:** [Frank Walsh](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Number of Registered Voters  
**Date:** Thursday, February 25, 2021 12:02:08 PM

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Amber,

2020 November General Election results:

33,980 Registered Voters  
25,811 Voter Turnout  
18,800 Absentee Ballots  
7,011 Voted at the Polls

Please let me know if you need anything else. I'm excited to have you working on this process and provide a fresh perspective and some new ideas.

Thank you, Deborah

**Deborah Guthrie**  
Clerk, Meridian Township  
[guthrie@meridian.mi.us](mailto:guthrie@meridian.mi.us)  
W 517.853.4324 | F 517.853.4251  
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864  
[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

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**From:** Amber Clark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 1:41 PM  
**To:** Deborah Guthrie <[guthrie@meridian.mi.us](mailto:guthrie@meridian.mi.us)>  
**Cc:** Frank Walsh <[walsh@meridian.mi.us](mailto:walsh@meridian.mi.us)>  
**Subject:** Number of Registered Voters

Hello Clerk Guthrie,

I am working on the Survey items to present to the board next week. There are some local organizations that could assist us with our survey's accuracy. Can you confirm the number of registered voters in Meridian Township? I think it's somewhere near 29,000. This will help us make a better determination on the process for the survey moving forward.

Thank you



**Amber Clark**  
Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director  
[clark@meridian.mi.us](mailto:clark@meridian.mi.us)  
W 517.853.4568  
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864  
[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

**From:** [William SaintAmour](#)  
**To:** [Amber Clark](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Meridian Township, MI Community Survey  
**Date:** Thursday, February 25, 2021 11:45:27 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[\(2017054\) Royal Oak MI - Questionnaire Final.pdf](#)  
[\(2019002\) Royal Oak MI Policy Study \(Marijuana\) Final\(1\).pdf](#)

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Good morning, Amber. Thank you for the opportunity to talk with you!

As a follow up, you will find the following:

Copy of the Royal Oak marijuana survey (attached)

Link to survey results: <https://www.romi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/24112/Marijuana-Survey-Summary-Report?bidId=>

Copy of broader community survey (attached - note, we are currently wrapping up the City's 2020/21 survey):

Link to survey results: <https://www.romi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19281/City-of-Royal-Oak-2017-Summary-Report-December-4-2017?bidId=>

Example of benchmarking questions: <https://www.romi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19353/2017-Benchmarks?bidId=>

Listing of partner communities: <https://www.cobaltcommunityresearch.org/partners--participants.html>

Let me know if additional information would be helpful, as we can provide information from a number of Michigan communities. Also, I didn't mention that we're located just outside of Lansing in Charlotte. We partner with communities across the U.S.

All the best!  
Will

William SaintAmour  
Executive Director, Cobalt Community Research  
877.888.0209

[www.CobaltCommunityResearch.org](http://www.CobaltCommunityResearch.org)

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**From:** Amber Clark <clark@meridian.mi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 3:24 PM  
**To:** William SaintAmour <wsaintamour@cobaltcommunityresearch.org>  
**Subject:** RE: Meridian Township, MI Community Survey

Wow SEMCOG that's intense! Thank you for your quick response. I did set up a free consultation on your website but that was before you and I connected. Thank you for the quick response. How about 11am for tomorrow? I can send you the meeting invitation



**Amber Clark**  
Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director  
[clark@meridian.mi.us](mailto:clark@meridian.mi.us)  
W 517.853.4568  
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864  
[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

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**From:** William SaintAmour [mailto:wsaintamour@cobaltcommunityresearch.org]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 3:20 PM

**To:** Amber Clark <clark@meridian.mi.us>

**Subject:** Re: Meridian Township, MI Community Survey

Thanks Amber. I'm flexible until 4:00 today, and from 9:30 to 1:00 if you would like to connect more quickly.

To give you some quick feedback on your questions below:

1. Cost estimates of our community creating a survey for Recreational Marijuana - A stand alone survey, 1-2 pages (1 sheet of paper), cover, postage and printing for two waves to 1,500 residents, online response portal, data entry, analysis, presentation: About \$10,000. Translations and extra pages would add to the cost. A 6-page survey package that we usually run for communities that include robust benchmarking, driver analysis, and customization is right around \$16,000. Some larger communities prefer to bump up the sample to 2,000 residents, which increases the cost by about \$1,000.
2. Number of people in our community that would be surveyed (Est 29,000 registered voters) - Typically, we target a random sample of 1,500 residents. This gives us a margin of error of +/- 5% with a 95% confidence (standard for most surveys)
3. Timeline for the creation, submission and analysis of the survey (hoping to have the survey completed, analyzed and reported on by end of May) - Once you bless the survey instrument, then we can have responses in your hand within 6 weeks. The development of the survey typically is 1-2 weeks, but that depends on how involved your governing body and various department heads will be.
4. Does MSU provide analysts to review the survey results? - If you have a contractual relationship with them and would like them to, then we are happy to share the data for them to go over. I'd recommend reaching out to Dr. Eric Scorsone. An alternative would be working with the MSU Extension office. Brad Neumann would be a good place to start. Both know Cobalt. Our process is consistent with industry standards, and the question structures that we have in place have been well proven by similar communities, so an MSU review may not add value; however, involving MSU Extension in your marijuana zoning would be VERY helpful to you.
5. Can you provide 3 Michigan communities for a reference of similar work you have provided? - Royal Oak, Ferndale, Charlotte, SEMCOG. I can provide contacts if you need them.
6. Can you assist our community to ensure the survey is unbiased? - As a 501c3, that is one of the main reasons we exist. We are a non-political, unbiased 3rd party that helps you with the question development, with unbiased analysis, and as an insulator to help keep community respondent identities anonymous

Hope this helps! Let me know what time works for you, and I can share more information.

Best,  
Will

William SaintAmour  
Executive Director, Cobalt Community Research  
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**From:** Amber Clark <[clark@meridian.mi.us](mailto:clark@meridian.mi.us)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 2:50 PM  
**To:** William SaintAmour <[wsaintamour@cobaltcommunityresearch.org](mailto:wsaintamour@cobaltcommunityresearch.org)>  
**Subject:** Meridian Township, MI Community Survey

Meridian Township is looking to conduct a community survey in the very near future. At this time we are considering a one topic survey (3-5 questions) on recreational Marijuana or multitude of topics (20+ questions) regarding our community. I would like to know:

1. Cost estimates of our community creating a survey for Recreational Marijuana
2. Number of people in our community that would be surveyed (Est 29,000 registered voters)
3. Timeline for the creation, submission and analysis of the survey (hoping to have the survey completed, analyzed and reported on by end of May)
4. Does MSU provide analysts to review the survey results?
5. Can you provide 3 Michigan communities for a reference of similar work you have provided?
6. Can you assist our community to ensure the survey is unbiased?

I hope to present this information to our Board by next Tuesday. I am available to talk at your earliest convenience.

Thank you



**Amber Clark**  
Neighborhoods & Economic Development Director  
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## 2019 Royal Oak Public Opinion Study

Thank you for your participation in this study. All answers will remain completely anonymous - your name will not be released or linked with the results without your permission.

1.) Should the City of Royal Oak allow the following businesses related to the use of recreational marijuana? The "Limited yes" option means you support the idea, but want rules to regulate it.

	Yes	Limited yes	No	Not sure
<b>Growing business:</b> A grower is a person licensed to grow marijuana plants. They can sell and move it to other marijuana businesses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Safety compliance facility:</b> This facility tests marijuana for potency, toxins, chemicals, pesticides, or other drugs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Processor:</b> A processor creates marijuana products, packages them, and sells them to other marijuana businesses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Microbusiness:</b> A microbusiness can grow up to 150 marijuana plants. It can process, package, and sell marijuana to people age 21 or older. It may move marijuana to a safety compliance facility, but not to other marijuana businesses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Retailer:</b> A marijuana retailer is a store that sells to people age 21 or older. It may move marijuana to other marijuana businesses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.) Where should marijuana **retailers** be allowed? The "Limited yes" option means you support the idea, but want rules to regulate it.

	Yes	Limited yes	No	Not sure
Commercial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Downtown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.) Where should marijuana **microbusinesses** be allowed?

	Yes	Limited yes	No	Not sure
Commercial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Downtown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residential areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.) Where should marijuana **safety testing, distribution, and processing** be allowed?

	Yes	Limited yes	No	Not sure
Commercial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Downtown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5.) Where should **marijuana growing** be allowed?

	Yes	Limited yes	No	Not sure
Commercial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Downtown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6.) Which types of **limits, rules, and requirements** should be put in place for marijuana businesses?

	Yes	No	Not sure
Advertising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Background check of owners/employees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building security (fencing, gates, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Distance between marijuana businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Distance from daycares, places of worship, residential areas, parks, schools, and other public spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy efficiency standards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hours of operation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labeling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Locate like any other business with similar activities (zone based on use such as industrial, commercial, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Limit number of marijuana licenses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organic certification	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visibility of products from the street	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7.) Please briefly share any other ideas or concerns related to adult-use (recreational) marijuana licenses:

8.) How should **medical marijuana businesses** be approached?

- Allow medical marijuana businesses with the same limitations as recreational marijuana businesses
  Allow medical marijuana businesses with fewer limitations than recreational marijuana businesses
  DO NOT allow medical marijuana businesses

The following questions are for analysis only and will not be used in any way to identify you.

**What is your ZIP Code?**

- 48067
  48073
  Other

**Did you vote to approve adult-use (recreational) marijuana in 2018?**

- I voted yes
  I did not vote on this issue
  I voted no
  I prefer not to answer

Thank you for your feedback!

# City of Royal Oak Public Opinion Study

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June 10, 2019



# Background on Cobalt Community Research

- 501c3 not for profit research coalition
- Mission to provide research and education
- Developed to meet the research needs of schools, local governments and nonprofit organizations

# Study Goals

- Better understand community preferences of types of businesses residents would like to see in the City of Royal Oak based on legalization of recreational marijuana
- Explore limits/regulations residents would like to have placed on recreational marijuana businesses
- Understand concerns that residents have regarding the implementation of recreational marijuana
- Identify differences in support based on demographic variables such as age and geography

# Methodology

- Random sample of 3,000 residents drawn from voter records
- Utilized [www.random.org](http://www.random.org), a well-respected utility used internationally by many universities and researchers to generate true random numbers
- Conducted using a single mailing in April 2019
- Valid response from 1,050 residents (35%), providing a conventional margin of error of +/- 3 percent (95% confidence)
  - Note: National surveys with a margin of error +/- 5% require a sample of 384 responses to reflect a population of 330,000,000
- In addition, the city received 99 voluntary responses that were not part of the random sample, providing 1,149 residents who took time to share their ideas

# Bottom Line

- The majority of residents support all types of businesses in the City of Royal Oak
- The plurality believe some limits should be put in place, and the comments have a strong theme of being consistent with alcohol regulation
- All of the potential limitations/regulations listed in the survey were supported by a majority of respondents
- Older residents were much less likely to want any marijuana business to be allowed
- Consistency with alcohol regulation and matching medical marijuana regulation with recreational were important themes

# Preserving Voice: Looking Into Detail

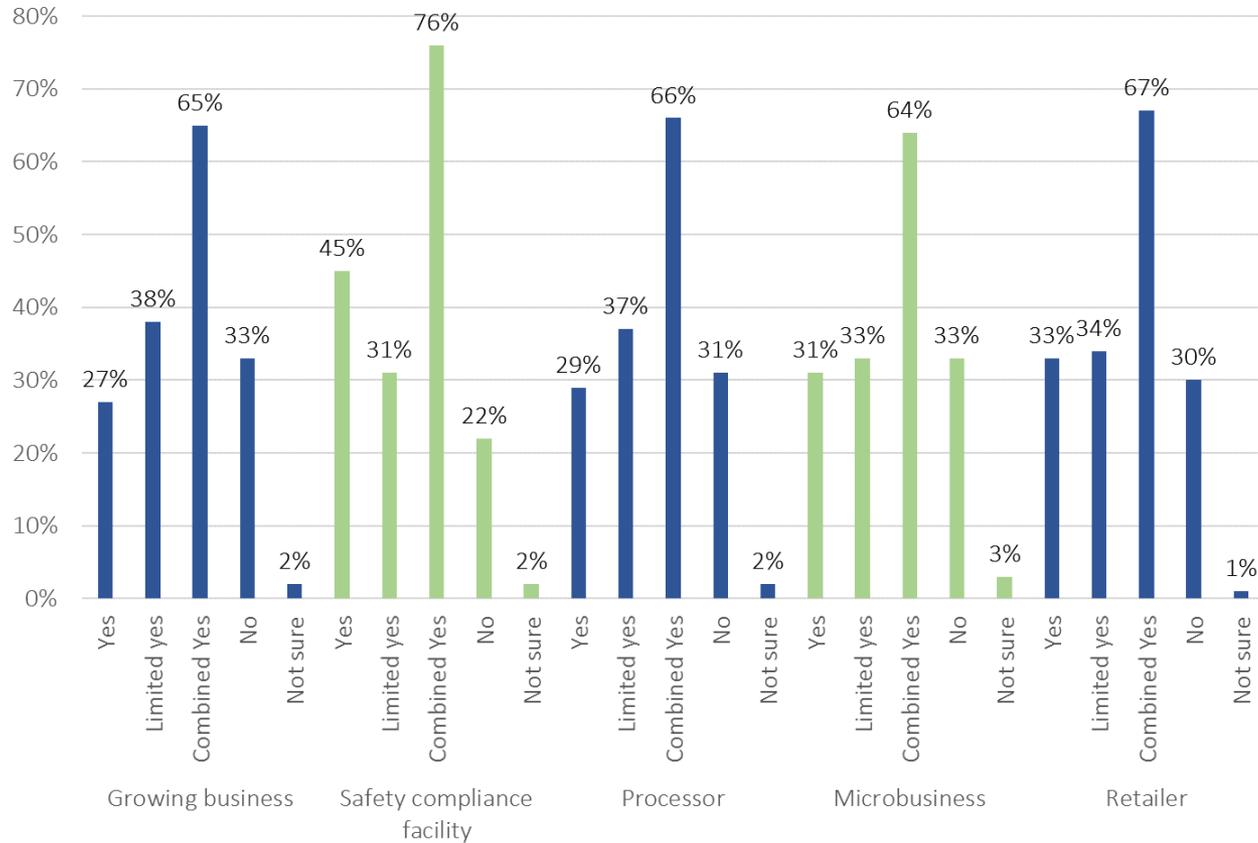
2019 Royal Oak Recreational Marijuana Policy Study Cobalt Community Research		Q1 Which Businesses to Allow				
		Growing business	Safety compliance facility	Processor	Microbusiness	Retailer
		Combined Yes	Combined Yes	Combined Yes	Combined Yes	Combined Yes
Overall		65%	76%	66%	64%	67%
Age	75+	41%	60%	36%	35%	38%
	65-74	60%	70%	60%	55%	59%
	55-64	64%	75%	66%	64%	70%
	45-54	55%	68%	62%	58%	63%
	35-44	76%	83%	77%	71%	76%
	25-34	79%	88%	77%	79%	82%
	Under 25	81%	89%	82%	86%	89%



# Results

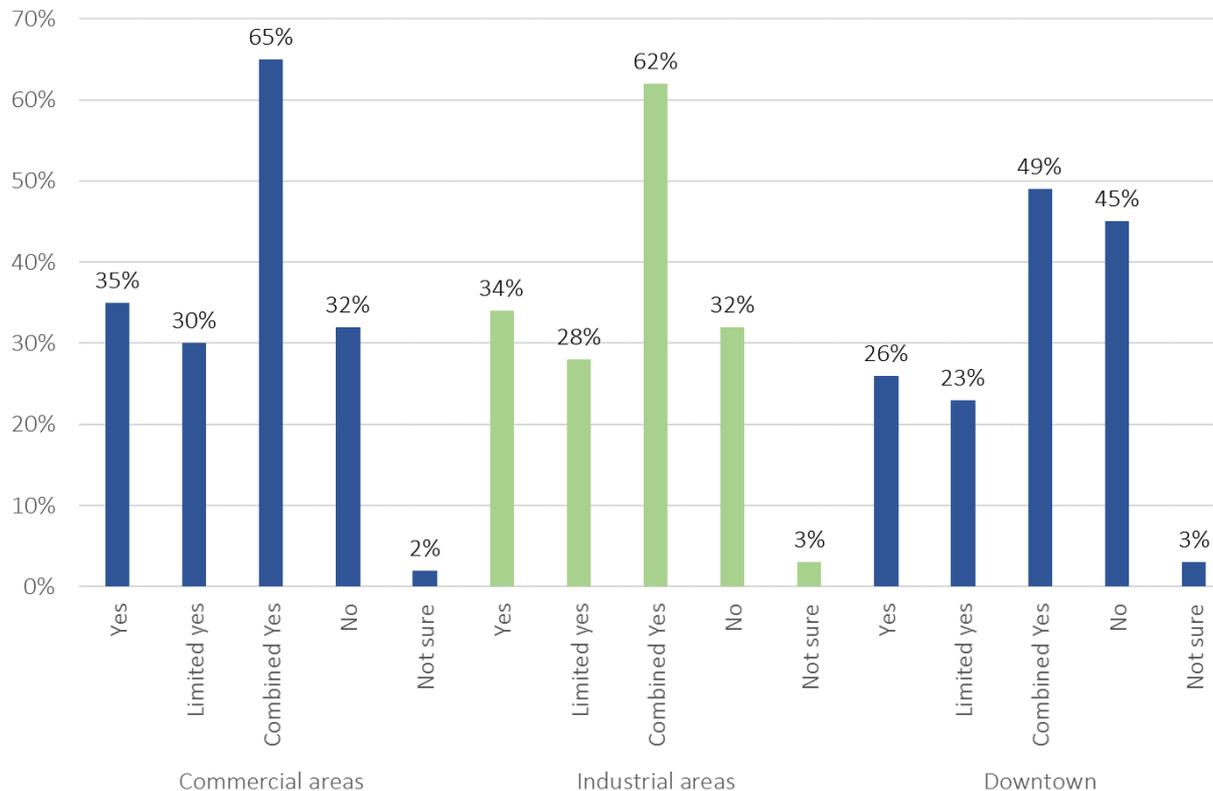


# Which types of businesses to allow



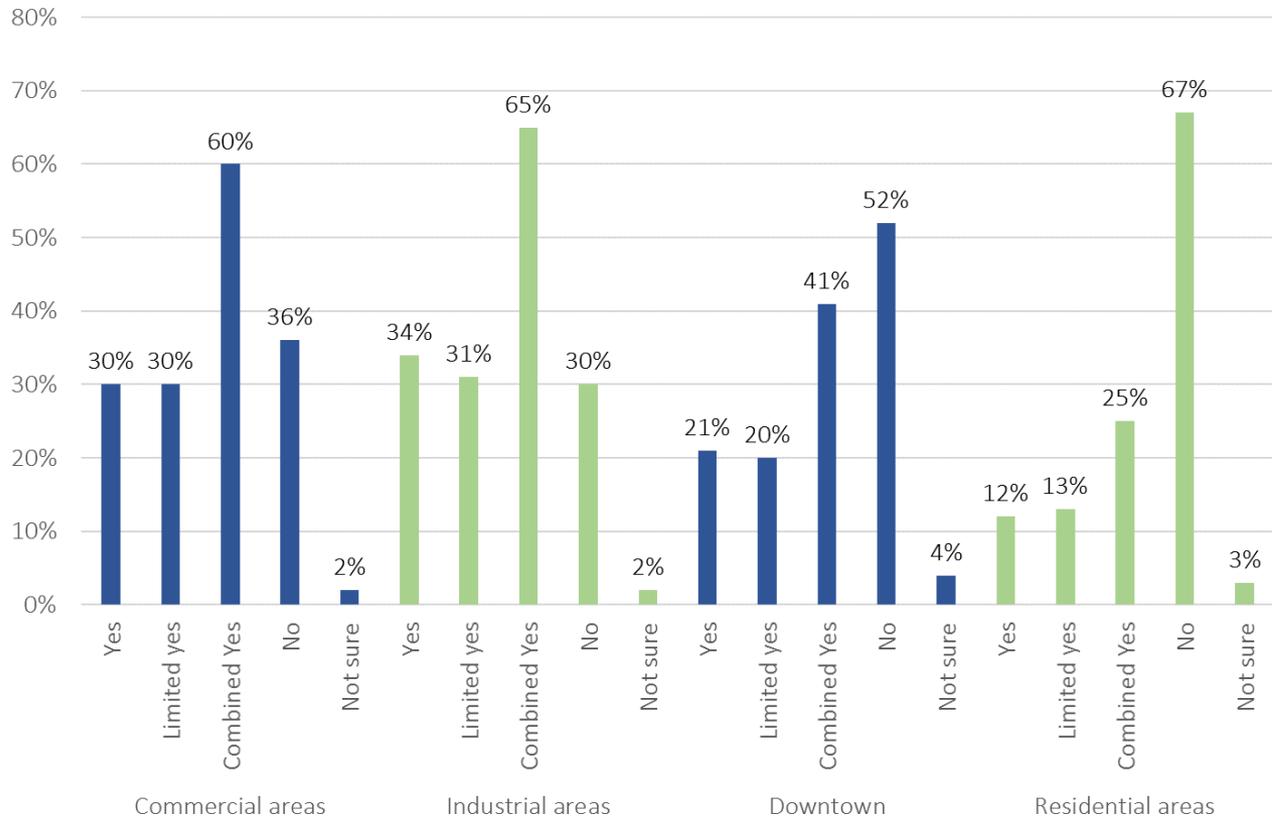
- Only about a third of the population opposes allowing businesses
- The majority support, regardless of the type of business
- The plurality generally support restrictions
- Very few respondents are not sure

# Locations of retailers



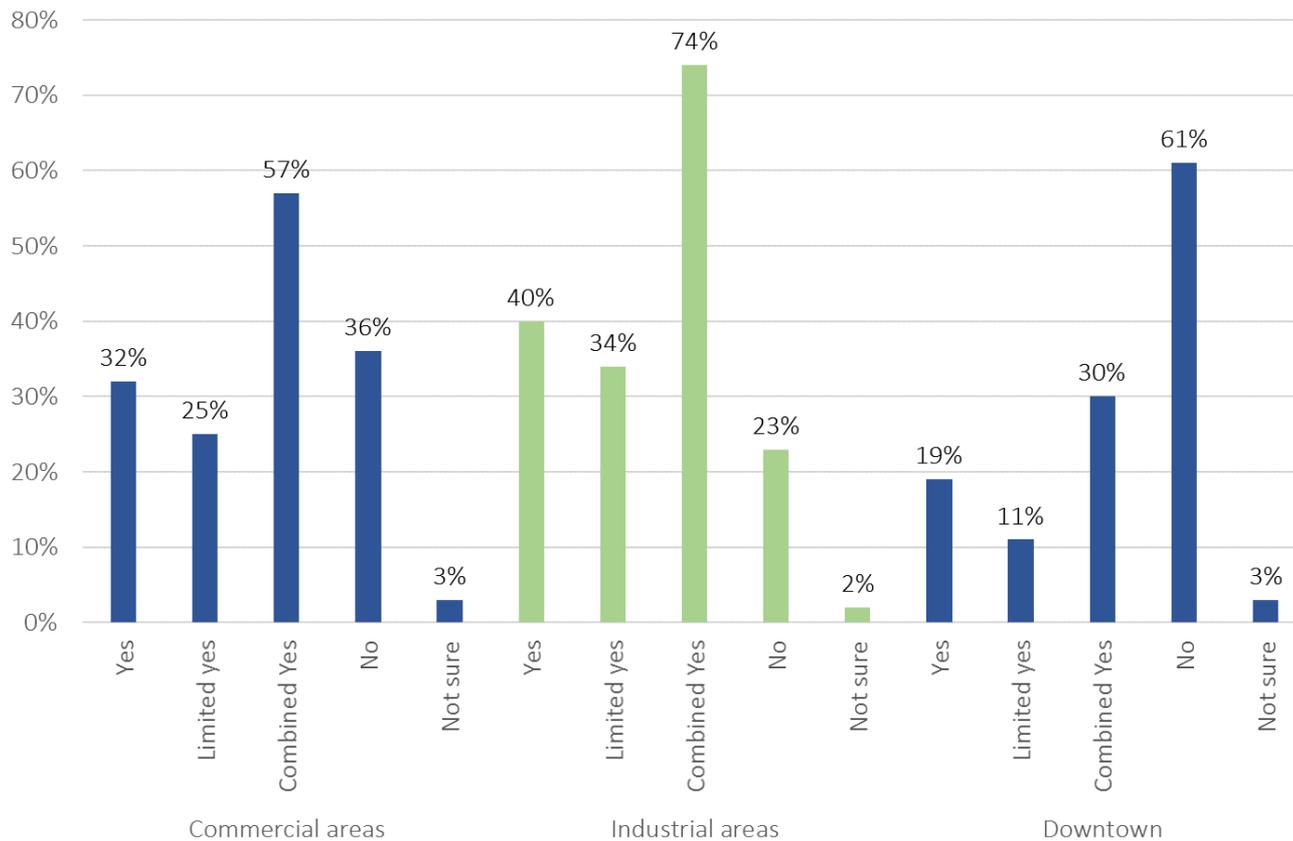
- The majority support locating businesses in commercial areas, industrial areas, and downtown
- There is much more division about allowing businesses downtown
- Very few respondents are not sure

# Locations of microbusinesses



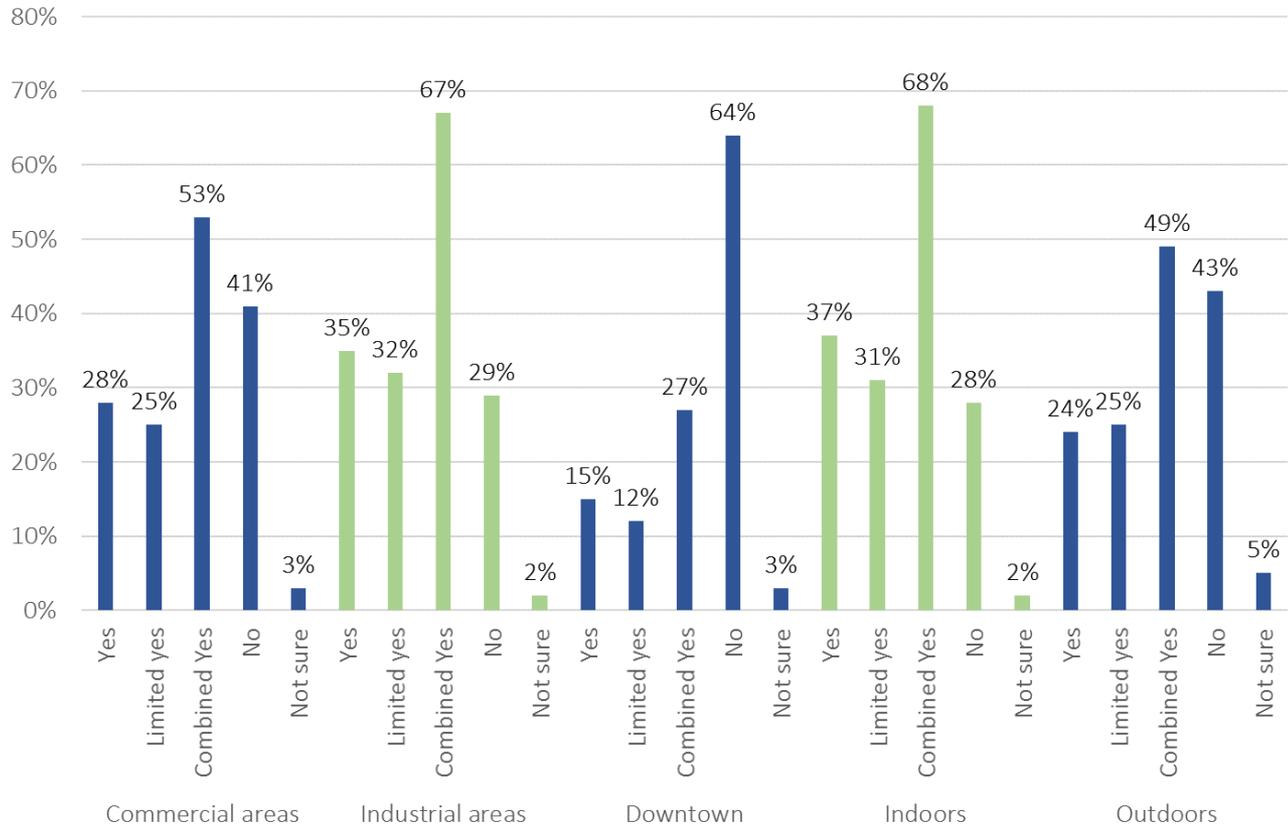
- The majority support locating microbusinesses in commercial areas and industrial areas, but they oppose downtown and residential areas

# Locations of safety testing, distribution and processing



- The majority support locating safety testing, distribution and processing businesses in commercial areas and industrial areas, but not downtown

# Locations of growing operations



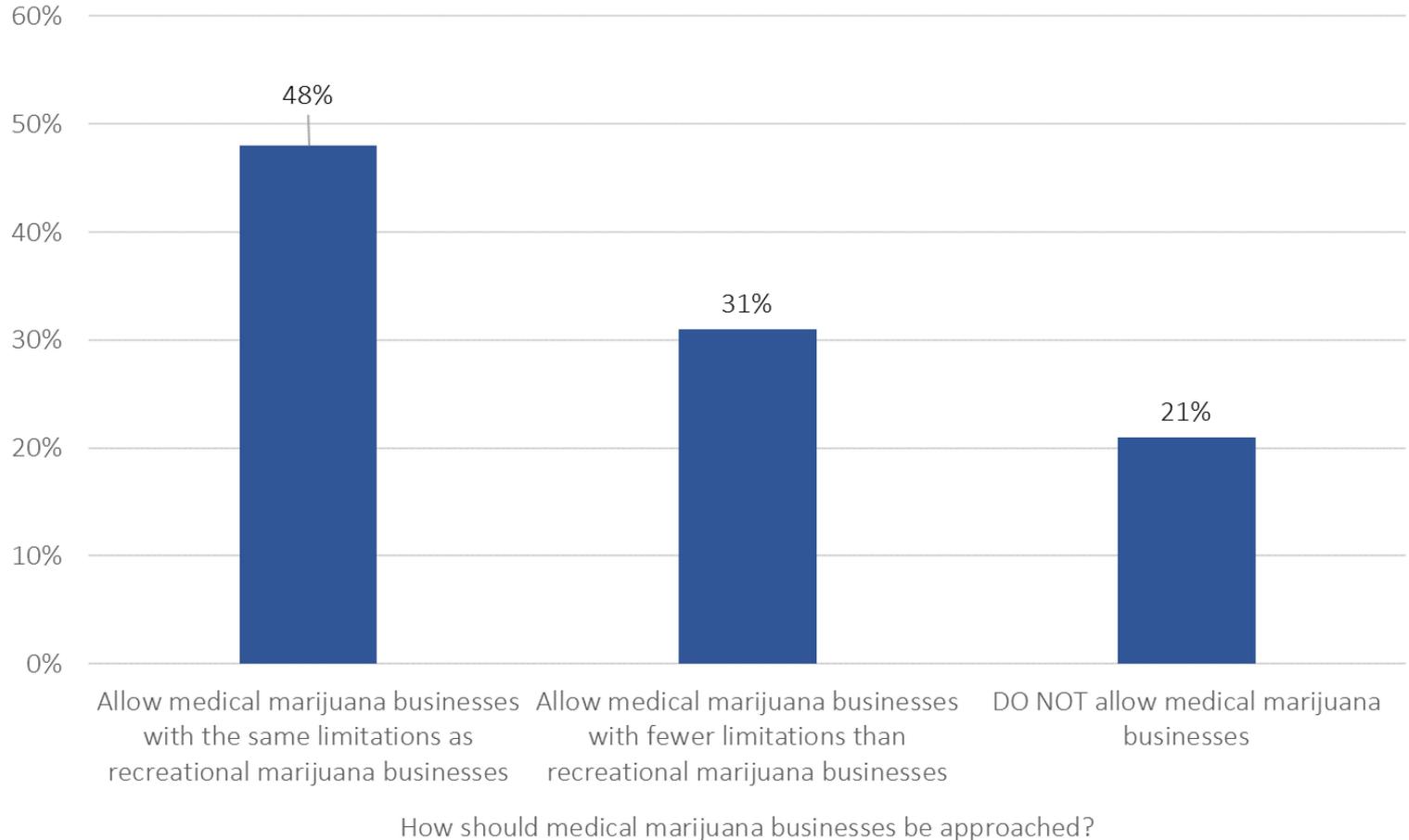
- The majority support locating growing operations in commercial areas, industrial areas, and indoors. They do not support such operations downtown
- There is much more division about allowing such operations in commercial areas and outdoors

# Types of regulations supported

Background check of owners/employees	Yes	82%
Labeling	Yes	81%
Building security (fencing, gates, etc.)	Yes	78%
Distance from daycares, places of worship, residential areas, parks, schools, and other public spaces	Yes	73%
Hours of operation	Yes	70%
Signage	Yes	68%
Energy efficiency standards	Yes	67%
Locate like any other business with similar activities (zone based on use such as industrial, commercial, etc.)	Yes	67%
Limit number of marijuana licenses	Yes	66%
Organic certification	Yes	64%
Distance between marijuana businesses	Yes	62%
Advertising	Yes	60%
Visibility of products from the street	Yes	51%

- The majority support each of the restrictions listed in the survey, with greatest support regarding background checks and labeling, with the softest support regarding visibility of products from the street

# Medical marijuana regulation – be consistent





# Questions

Cobalt - 2017 Communities  
City of Royal Oak  
Score Table

	2017 Royal Oak	2015 Royal Oak	Change from '15 to '17	2013 Royal Oak	Change from '13 to '17
<b>Fire and Emergency Medical Services Overall</b>	90	88	➔ 1.8	85	↑ 4.6
Fire coverage for the community	92	89		87	
Fire prevention education	79	79		75	
Response time to fires	93	91		89	
Response time to medical emergencies	93	91		90	
<b>Public Schools Overall</b>	73	71	➔ 1.7	68	↑ 4.7
Meeting community needs	74	72		70	
Preparation for careers	72	72		66	
Preparation for college	74	74		68	
Communication with public	73	71		67	
<b>Transportation Overall</b>	63	61	➔ 1.7	63	➔ -0.3
Street maintenance/repair	52	51		56	
Road signage	74	73		75	
Traffic congestion on the roads	63	61		64	
Public transportation options	42	44		45	
Accommodation for bicycle and foot traffic	69	70		60	
Ease of finding parking	48	53		50	
<b>Utility Services Overall</b>	87	85	↑ 2.3	85	➔ 1.8
Drinking water quality	85	86		85	
Garbage collection service	87	86		85	
Brush and leaf disposal	85	78		83	
Recycling service	90	87		87	
<b>Police Department Overall</b>	81	82	➔ -0.9	78	↑ 3.2
Respectful treatment of citizens	80	83		78	
Fair-equitable enforcement	80	82		78	
Safety education	79	74		71	
Response time to emergencies	88	86		83	
<b>Property Taxes Overall</b>	64	68	➔ -4.5	70	➔ -6.1
Fairness of property appraisals	64	62		64	
Adequacy of period to pay taxes	78	78		77	
Fairness of tax levels	59	77		76	
Quality received for taxes	62	61		64	
Communication on how tax dollars are used	54	62		67	
<b>Shopping Opportunities Overall</b>	79	74	↑ 5.5	77	↑ 2.2
Shopping for everyday items	78	77		81	
Shopping for major items	69	68		71	
Sufficient choices	77	75		78	
Area restaurant choices	88				
<b>Local Government Overall</b>	65	66	➔ -1.3	67	➔ -2.3
Leaders are trustworthy	64	68		69	
Being well-managed	64	66		66	
Well trained employees	71	69		71	
Effective communication	62	67		67	
Spending dollars wisely	54	56		59	
Encouraging citizen ideas and involvement	58	60		62	
Maintaining a website that meets your needs	68	70		70	
Openness to resident questions or concerns	59	62		60	
Enforcing appearance/safety codes for residential and busi	62				
Level of professionalism of local staff	74	74		74	
Follow-up provided by local staff	63				
Ease of getting your question answered	65	70		71	
<b>Community Events Overall</b>	77	78	➔ -1.2	77	➔ 0.1
Range of cultural offerings	77	77		78	
Strong-vibrant art community	82	80		79	
Quality sporting events	59	58		52	
Variety of festivals and events	84	85		82	
Activities that interest you	74				
<b>Economic Health Overall</b>	69	67	➔ 1.4	65	↑ 3.5
Cost of living	65	65		67	
Quality of jobs	65	65		60	
Affordability of housing	54	60		62	
Availability of jobs	61	60		54	
Stability of property values	77	74		68	
Strength of local economy	76	72		69	
<b>Diversity Overall</b>	62	61	➔ 0.9	61	➔ 1.2
Ethnic diversity	61	60		62	
Ethnic group interaction	58	58		55	
Efforts to support diversity	69	67		67	
<b>Parks and Recreation Overall</b>	76	74	➔ 1.8	73	↑ 2.9
Facilities and parks meet your needs	77	77		75	
Facility and park maintenance	74	71		70	
Quality of programs	76	73		75	
Variety of programs	76	72		73	
<b>Library Overall</b>	85	82	↑ 3.3	80	↑ 5.1
Hours of operation	84	78		74	
Adequacy of resources	86	82		79	
Location(s)	86	85		84	
<b>Community Satisfaction Overall (ACSI)</b>	69	68	➔ 1.1	70	➔ -1.2
Overall satisfaction	74	73		77	
Compared to expectations	65	65		66	
Compared to ideal	67	66		67	
<b>Community Image Overall</b>	80	79	➔ 1.2	79	➔ 1.0
Safe place to live	84	83		81	
Enjoyable for children	84	81		81	
Enjoyable for young adults	88	88		87	
Enjoyable for seniors	76	76		78	
Enjoyable place for everyone else	85	81		82	
Attractive	79	79		78	
Great place to live	82	80		81	
Great place for business	77	73		75	
Growing responsibly	71	72		72	
Safe place to bike and walk	78	77		74	
Safe place to walk at night	77	75		72	
Perfect community for me	75	74		75	
Recommend as place to live	78	77	➔ 1.2	79	➔ -1.2
Remain in community	76	73	↑ 2.9	74	➔ 1.5
Plan to volunteer	51	46	↑ 5.1	51	➔ 0.1
Encourage business start up	61	59	↑ 2.1	63	➔ -2.4
Support Govt Admin	57	58	➔ -1.0	58	➔ -1.3

Cobalt - 2017 Communities  
City of Royal Oak  
Score Table

	2017 National 25-100k	2015 National 25-100k	2013 National 25-100k	2017 National Overall	2015 National Overall	2013 National Overall
<b>Fire and Emergency Medical Services Overall</b>	84	82	82	81	80	80
Fire coverage for the community	86	86	84	83	83	82
Fire prevention education	73	71	71	69	70	69
Response time to fires	85	86	85	83	83	83
Response time to medical emergencies	87	87	85	84	83	83
<b>Public Schools Overall</b>	69	67	64	65	64	64
Meeting community needs	71	69	67	67	66	66
Preparation for careers	68	66	63	63	64	63
Preparation for college	70	69	64	66	66	64
Communication with public	65	65	62	62	61	61
<b>Transportation Overall</b>	61	60	61	58	58	58
Street maintenance/repair	54	54	57	51	52	55
Road signage	71	70	70	68	68	68
Traffic congestion on the roads	55	57	61	56	58	61
Public transportation options	54	54	52	48	48	48
Accommodation for bicycle and foot traffic	56	58	56	53	53	53
Ease of finding parking	66	64	-	64	63	-
<b>Utility Services Overall</b>	77	78	79	73	74	77
Drinking water quality	72	73	72	72	72	72
Garbage collection service	85	83	82	80	80	80
Brush and leaf disposal	73	76	-	68	70	-
Recycling service	75	76	77	71	73	72
<b>Police Department Overall</b>	78	75	75	75	73	73
Respectful treatment of citizens	80	75	75	78	74	75
Fair-equitable enforcement	80	74	74	76	72	72
Safety education	76	70	70	71	68	67
Response time to emergencies	80	78	78	77	75	75
<b>Property Taxes Overall</b>	60	62	65	59	58	62
Fairness of property appraisals	59	62	61	58	58	56
Adequacy of period to pay taxes	72	74	72	72	72	72
Fairness of tax levels	57	60	58	57	57	55
Quality received for taxes	59	61	59	57	55	55
Communication on how tax dollars are used	48	50	-	48	46	-
<b>Shopping Opportunities Overall</b>	77	79	79	70	70	71
Shopping for everyday items	82	83	82	76	75	75
Shopping for major items	75	77	75	66	66	66
Sufficient choices	78	80	79	71	70	70
Area restaurant choices	75	-	-	66	-	-
<b>Local Government Overall</b>	62	58	60	57	55	57
Leaders are trustworthy	63	61	60	58	57	59
Being well-managed	62	60	60	58	56	58
Well trained employees	65	61	61	60	59	61
Effective communication	60	58	59	56	55	57
Spending dollars wisely	55	51	52	49	50	51
Encouraging citizen ideas and involvement	60	55	56	53	52	53
Maintaining a website that meets your needs	64	61	62	56	57	58
Openness to resident questions or concerns	60	-	-	57	-	-
Enforcing appearance/safety codes for residential and busin	60	-	-	58	-	-
Level of professionalism of local staff	66	-	-	63	-	-
Follow-up provided by local staff	60	-	-	57	-	-
Ease of getting your question answered	61	-	-	56	-	-
<b>Community Events Overall</b>	65	62	64	61	58	62
Range of cultural offerings	66	64	64	60	58	61
Strong-vibrant art community	68	63	61	60	57	58
Quality sporting events	63	61	62	61	58	60
Variety of festivals and events	70	69	66	67	63	65
Activities that interest you	61	-	-	57	-	-
<b>Economic Health Overall</b>	58	57	54	54	52	52
Cost of living	57	57	59	55	55	57
Quality of jobs	54	54	52	49	48	49
Affordability of housing	54	54	56	51	51	53
Availability of jobs	52	50	45	46	44	41
Stability of property values	63	63	55	59	57	53
Strength of local economy	61	61	54	57	55	52
<b>Diversity Overall</b>	-	-	63	-	-	59
Ethnic diversity	-	-	66	-	-	61
Ethnic group interaction	-	-	56	-	-	54
Efforts to support diversity	-	-	65	-	-	62
<b>Parks and Recreation Overall</b>	74	72	73	69	68	68
Facilities and parks meet your needs	75	73	74	71	69	70
Facility and park maintenance	77	75	74	73	71	71
Quality of programs	70	71	71	66	66	66
Variety of programs	69	69	70	63	63	64
<b>Library Overall</b>	81	79	80	80	77	77
Hours of operation	80	77	78	78	75	75
Adequacy of resources	83	78	79	80	76	77
Location(s)	82	80	82	81	78	80
<b>Community Satisfaction Overall (ACSI)</b>	64	64	64	63	61	62
Overall satisfaction	69	70	69	68	66	67
Compared to expectations	63	62	62	61	59	60
Compared to ideal	60	60	60	59	56	58
<b>Community Image Overall</b>	69	69	68	66	66	67
Safe place to live	75	75	74	74	74	74
Enjoyable for children	73	73	71	71	71	70
Enjoyable for young adults	69	68	65	64	65	63
Enjoyable for seniors	76	76	73	72	72	71
Enjoyable place for everyone else	73	72	72	69	69	70
Attractive	68	68	70	64	64	68
Great place to live	74	73	71	70	70	70
Great place for business	64	64	62	59	59	58
Growing responsibly	61	64	61	59	60	60
Safe place to bike and walk	63	68	65	63	65	63
Safe place to walk at night	57	61	59	58	58	57
Perfect community for me	67	68	65	66	65	66
Recommend as place to live	67	67	67	65	64	65
Remain in community	71	72	75	72	71	72
Plan to volunteer	52	54	52	55	52	53
Encourage business start up	54	53	54	54	53	53
Support Govt Admin	57	56	55	58	55	55

Cobalt - 2017 Communities  
City of Royal Oak  
Score Table

	2017 Midwest 25-100k	2015 Midwest 25-100k	2013 Midwest 25-100k	2017 Midwest Overall	2015 Midwest Overall	2013 Midwest Overall
<b>Fire and Emergency Medical Services Overall</b>	85	84	81	82	80	78
Fire coverage for the community	87	89	84	84	83	82
Fire prevention education	75	78	77	70	74	69
Response time to fires	86	88	84	85	83	81
Response time to medical emergencies	86	88	85	83	81	80
<b>Public Schools Overall</b>	69	69	70	69	67	66
Meeting community needs	70	71	73	71	70	67
Preparation for careers	66	68	68	66	67	64
Preparation for college	69	69	70	69	69	66
Communication with public	65	67	68	65	64	64
<b>Transportation Overall</b>	64	63	66	61	61	62
Street maintenance/repair	58	53	62	52	49	57
Road signage	73	70	74	71	69	70
Traffic congestion on the roads	57	63	69	64	65	67
Public transportation options	54	58	59	46	49	51
Accommodation for bicycle and foot traffic	61	62	64	55	58	58
Ease of finding parking	71	72	-	70	69	-
<b>Utility Services Overall</b>	77	77	81	74	75	77
Drinking water quality	71	72	74	70	74	72
Garbage collection service	85	83	85	80	81	81
Brush and leaf disposal	75	76	-	70	70	-
Recycling service	76	76	79	72	73	72
<b>Police Department Overall</b>	74	74	77	75	73	73
Respectful treatment of citizens	76	74	76	77	73	75
Fair-equitable enforcement	75	71	77	74	72	72
Safety education	73	76	75	70	71	69
Response time to emergencies	77	79	80	76	75	75
<b>Property Taxes Overall</b>	58	58	66	58	56	60
Fairness of property appraisals	56	60	62	55	55	54
Adequacy of period to pay taxes	67	73	70	71	71	69
Fairness of tax levels	54	58	61	55	54	52
Quality received for taxes	58	57	62	55	52	54
Communication on how tax dollars are used	46	45	-	47	44	-
<b>Shopping Opportunities Overall</b>	75	80	81	64	66	68
Shopping for everyday items	79	85	84	71	72	73
Shopping for major items	74	77	77	59	61	63
Sufficient choices	75	79	81	64	66	67
Area restaurant choices	73	-	-	61	-	-
<b>Local Government Overall</b>	64	59	62	58	55	58
Leaders are trustworthy	63	62	62	59	57	59
Being well-managed	63	61	63	58	56	59
Well trained employees	67	62	63	60	58	60
Effective communication	62	60	61	55	54	58
Spending dollars wisely	57	52	57	51	49	52
Encouraging citizen ideas and involvement	60	56	59	53	50	54
Maintaining a website that meets your needs	66	58	64	55	54	56
Openness to resident questions or concerns	59	-	-	57	-	-
Enforcing appearance/safety codes for residential and busin	57	-	-	57	-	-
Level of professionalism of local staff	66	-	-	62	-	-
Follow-up provided by local staff	56	-	-	55	-	-
Ease of getting your question answered	61	-	-	55	-	-
<b>Community Events Overall</b>	62	61	65	61	58	62
Range of cultural offerings	59	64	65	59	58	61
Strong-vibrant art community	64	64	62	57	56	57
Quality sporting events	60	59	64	63	61	62
Variety of festivals and events	68	68	66	68	62	65
Activities that interest you	59	-	-	55	-	-
<b>Economic Health Overall</b>	58	62	58	54	54	53
Cost of living	56	64	66	57	57	59
Quality of jobs	54	59	54	49	49	49
Affordability of housing	56	61	61	55	53	57
Availability of jobs	52	55	49	46	45	42
Stability of property values	61	66	58	57	57	52
Strength of local economy	61	64	57	56	54	52
<b>Diversity Overall</b>	-	-	59	-	-	56
Ethnic diversity	-	-	64	-	-	58
Ethnic group interaction	-	-	53	-	-	51
Efforts to support diversity	-	-	62	-	-	58
<b>Parks and Recreation Overall</b>	77	75	78	71	70	69
Facilities and parks meet your needs	78	78	78	73	72	70
Facility and park maintenance	78	77	78	74	74	71
Quality of programs	74	74	77	68	67	66
Variety of programs	74	73	76	65	64	64
<b>Library Overall</b>	81	80	83	80	77	78
Hours of operation	80	79	82	80	75	76
Adequacy of resources	82	79	82	82	77	77
Location(s)	82	82	84	81	80	82
<b>Community Satisfaction Overall (ACSI)</b>	66	68	64	63	61	61
Overall satisfaction	70	73	69	67	66	67
Compared to expectations	63	67	63	61	60	60
Compared to ideal	62	62	61	59	57	57
<b>Community Image Overall</b>	65	68	71	66	66	67
Safe place to live	74	72	76	75	73	75
Enjoyable for children	71	73	74	71	71	71
Enjoyable for young adults	69	68	69	64	65	62
Enjoyable for seniors	75	75	74	72	71	71
Enjoyable place for everyone else	69	69	74	67	67	70
Attractive	65	66	71	63	61	67
Great place to live	72	73	73	70	70	70
Great place for business	59	62	66	58	58	58
Growing responsibly	58	63	65	58	58	60
Safe place to bike and walk	66	69	69	67	68	67
Safe place to walk at night	56	61	65	62	61	61
Perfect community for me	62	66	67	65	62	65
Recommend as place to live	64	66	68	64	62	64
Remain in community	67	72	74	70	70	69
Plan to volunteer	46	50	54	55	52	53
Encourage business start up	47	54	57	56	54	52
Support Govt Admin	52	55	57	59	55	55

Cobalt - 2017 Communities  
City of Royal Oak  
Score Table

	2017 Michigan 25-100k	2015 Michigan 25-100k	2013 Michigan 25-100k	2017 Michigan Overall	2015 Michigan Overall	2013 Michigan Overall
<b>Fire and Emergency Medical Services Overall</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>77</b>
Fire coverage for the community	86	83	86	84	80	80
Fire prevention education	77	75	74	69	66	65
Response time to fires	88	87	88	84	80	79
Response time to medical emergencies	90	90	88	85	81	80
<b>Public Schools Overall</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>67</b>
Meeting community needs	74	73	72	69	68	71
Preparation for careers	72	67	69	66	63	66
Preparation for college	75	70	71	67	66	68
Communication with public	70	68	68	65	62	65
<b>Transportation Overall</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>60</b>
Street maintenance/repair	49	45	51	49	41	52
Road signage	74	70	71	73	67	71
Traffic congestion on the roads	58	59	61	61	60	64
Public transportation options	48	50	46	48	44	46
Accommodation for bicycle and foot traffic	58	59	55	58	54	56
Ease of finding parking	71	70	-	68	68	-
<b>Utility Services Overall</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>76</b>
Drinking water quality	76	79	73	75	76	74
Garbage collection service	81	83	81	83	82	79
Brush and leaf disposal	75	73	-	69	68	-
Recycling service	81	79	71	74	73	68
<b>Police Department Overall</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>73</b>
Respectful treatment of citizens	81	79	74	79	73	74
Fair-equitable enforcement	79	77	72	77	71	71
Safety education	78	74	70	71	68	68
Response time to emergencies	87	83	79	80	76	73
<b>Property Taxes Overall</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>64</b>
Fairness of property appraisals	63	64	58	61	55	56
Adequacy of period to pay taxes	77	81	75	75	74	74
Fairness of tax levels	62	66	58	59	57	56
Quality received for taxes	62	63	56	57	55	56
Communication on how tax dollars are used	57	54	-	51	49	-
<b>Shopping Opportunities Overall</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>72</b>
Shopping for everyday items	84	83	84	75	74	76
Shopping for major items	81	78	79	67	63	66
Sufficient choices	84	80	82	72	68	72
Area restaurant choices	80	-	-	69	-	-
<b>Local Government Overall</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>59</b>
Leaders are trustworthy	66	63	62	63	57	61
Being well-managed	66	61	62	62	56	59
Well trained employees	70	65	64	65	60	62
Effective communication	67	60	59	59	55	58
Spending dollars wisely	58	58	54	53	50	53
Encouraging citizen ideas and involvement	63	55	55	56	50	54
Maintaining a website that meets your needs	66	64	65	60	54	60
Openness to resident questions or concerns	69	-	-	63	-	-
Enforcing appearance/safety codes for residential and busin	68	-	-	60	-	-
Level of professionalism of local staff	74	-	-	69	-	-
Follow-up provided by local staff	67	-	-	63	-	-
Ease of getting your question answered	67	-	-	62	-	-
<b>Community Events Overall</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>63</b>
Range of cultural offerings	66	63	60	60	56	59
Strong-vibrant art community	68	61	60	60	56	58
Quality sporting events	67	58	57	62	55	61
Variety of festivals and events	71	67	67	68	65	67
Activities that interest you	64	-	-	59	-	-
<b>Economic Health Overall</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>49</b>
Cost of living	63	58	58	60	55	56
Quality of jobs	60	51	50	52	45	46
Affordability of housing	63	58	57	57	54	55
Availability of jobs	58	46	38	50	42	37
Stability of property values	66	56	46	62	55	46
Strength of local economy	66	57	46	59	51	46
<b>Diversity Overall</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>57</b>
Ethnic diversity	-	-	67	-	-	58
Ethnic group interaction	-	-	54	-	-	51
Efforts to support diversity	-	-	63	-	-	61
<b>Parks and Recreation Overall</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>67</b>
Facilities and parks meet your needs	79	77	73	73	72	69
Facility and park maintenance	80	77	73	75	72	69
Quality of programs	76	72	70	69	65	65
Variety of programs	75	72	69	65	63	62
<b>Library Overall</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>
Hours of operation	80	79	78	79	76	77
Adequacy of resources	84	82	82	80	78	79
Location(s)	85	86	82	85	82	82
<b>Community Satisfaction Overall (ACSI)</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>
Overall satisfaction	72	68	65	69	65	65
Compared to expectations	66	61	59	62	57	57
Compared to ideal	65	58	57	60	55	56
<b>Community Image Overall</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>68</b>
Safe place to live	79	71	71	78	75	73
Enjoyable for children	78	68	70	75	70	71
Enjoyable for young adults	72	64	64	67	64	64
Enjoyable for seniors	78	68	72	76	69	72
Enjoyable place for everyone else	71	62	70	71	66	71
Attractive	70	61	67	67	62	68
Great place to live	77	66	69	75	68	71
Great place for business	70	60	60	63	56	58
Growing responsibly	70	59	61	64	59	61
Safe place to bike and walk	69	64	65	69	66	68
Safe place to walk at night	64	58	54	63	61	60
Perfect community for me	69	63	66	69	63	67
Recommend as place to live	70	64	66	69	65	66
Remain in community	72	62	68	74	69	72
Plan to volunteer	55	45	54	55	50	51
Encourage business start up	62	55	53	60	52	55
Support Govt Admin	60	53	51	61	51	56



**To: Board Members**  
**From: Deborah Guthrie**  
**Date: February 25, 2021**  
**Re: Recreational Marihuana**

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Attached is the information requested from the Township Attorney on Recreational Marihuana

February 25, 2021

Township Board Members  
Meridian Charter Township  
5151 Marsh Road  
Okemos, MI 48864

Dear Township Board Members:

**Re: *Options for Establishing an Adult-Use Marihuana Regulatory Framework***

During our last meeting with the Township Board, the Board indicated an interest in understanding Meridian Charter Township's ("Township") options for regulating adult-use marihuana establishments, including whether such model had to track the current medical marihuana regulations or whether such medical marihuana regulations could be replaced with a new all-encompassing adult-use marihuana establishment regulation. You asked us to provide a succinct list of options available to the Township as it considers recreational marihuana businesses, impacts or changes to its medical marihuana licensing ordinances, and the litigation risks that those options entail. We discuss below three regulatory frameworks that are inclusive of many of the comments and questions raised by Township Board members to highlight several pathways forward:

- (1) Continue with the medical marihuana facilities as authorized but allow an unlimited number of recreational marihuana establishments, with the number of marihuana establishments controlled by a zoning ordinance amendment (inclusive of setback requirements).
- (2) Authorize a specific number of recreational marihuana establishments, which will require the Township to engage in a competitive review of process if applications that satisfy the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act ("MRTMA") are received in excess of the specific number authorized.
- (3) Do not authorize any recreational marihuana establishments until there is more clarity in state law between the Medical Marihuana Facility Licensing Act ("MMFLA") and the MRTMA businesses. The Township could also examine the operation of its medical marihuana



facilities ordinance and await further results from current known litigation on the interplay between the MMFLA and MRTMA licensed businesses.

Each of these options are legally viable based on the current state of the law regarding marihuana. Each option will have winners and losers. Some of the choices are, however, more conservative in terms of exposure to litigation risk based on the laws and rules currently in place. In any scenario, grandfathering or limiting recreational permit applications only to existing medical applicants would be disfavored because of the differences between the MMFLA and MRTMA. Even taking no action, individuals may petition to authorize a number of establishments within the Township. (They could also petition to prohibit recreational establishments.) No matter what option the Township chooses, there is a risk of litigation. While we believe that many claims will likely lack merit, there have been many claims filed against municipalities regardless of how cautious or careful they have proceeded.

### **OPTION 1: REGULATE RECREATIONAL MARIHUANA ONLY THROUGH ZONING**

This option follows the model from East Lansing as raised by Board members. The Township can pass a police power (non-zoning) ordinance authorizing marihuana retailers without a cap on permits but impose a setback restriction in a zoning ordinance from other recreational marihuana establishments (or any marihuana facility or establishment). The planning department may be of assistance in considering how this would look as they can likely prepare some maps showing various setback distances and scenarios to help the Board get a better understanding. The exact setbacks would be of paramount importance in also assessing litigation risk.

Under this framework, any applicant could receive a permit. The winners under this paradigm would be the establishments that are awarded permits within the respective overlay districts within the Township. It would likely frustrate the owners of medical marihuana facilities that do not receive a recreational permit. If another business receives approval within the setback radius of an existing medical marihuana facility, it would preclude the ability for the medical facility to receive a permit to sell recreational marihuana. A losing medical marihuana facility may still find a reason to litigate. Although there would be some natural geographic limits, the Township would not directly limit the number of recreational permits available. With the unresolved nature of several aspects of the MRTMA, including the co-location provisions of Section 6(5), the ultimate number of operating medical facilities or recreational establishments is unclear. Some concerns

related to alienating current medical marijuana facilities could be reduced by ensuring that setbacks are not established in a vacuum without context to current operating marijuana facilities.

Since, under this option, the police power ordinance would not limit the number of establishments, it diminishes the likelihood that a competitive review process beyond zoning would be required. To the extent competitive review would still be applicable, the Township could accomplish this through its zoning review or still allow for a process in its police power ordinance, but only in limited circumstances (i.e., two applicants applying at the same time that otherwise limit each other due to setback restrictions). The land use application process and the existing review paradigm would be utilized. Regulating marijuana establishments through zoning may mitigate against the risk of a voter-initiated petition to maximize the number of marijuana establishments given that the ordinance would have no numerical limit. But it may not limit other voter-initiated petitions to prohibit any establishment.

## **OPTION 2: REGULATE THE NUMBER OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS IN A POLICE POWER ORDINANCE**

This option follows a very similar procedure to how the Township approves medical facilities. The Township would provide for a specific number of marijuana establishments that is appropriate for the community. The Township is likely to receive more applications than permits and a “competitive process” would need to be implemented. We have previously discussed several factors the Township could consider.

Those who are awarded applications under this regulatory framework would be applicants that score highly on the competitive application process. Businesses that do not receive a permit under the scoring scheme could attack the scoring factors that they believe are not fair. We have previously discussed litigation that has arisen in the last six months in these scenarios. The legal landscape is evolving and the outcome of the litigation has not yet been definitive.

The number of permits authorized is important. Any applicant could score highly enough to secure a permit. The more conservative approach would be to provide more recreational permits than the existing available medical permits. The fewer recreational permits available, the more likely a business unable to secure a permit would litigate the scoring rubric. Although the Township would seek to fairly and accurately capture all factors, industry participants may still perceive them as incomplete or unfair (especially as it relates to weighing in favor of current medical marijuana licensees in the Township).

### **OPTION 3: DELAY PERMITTING ANY RECREATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS UNTIL LAW IN THE AREA SETTLES**

The Township may also choose to continue its existing medical facilities and remain opted out of recreational marihuana. Option 3 would avoid litigation risk from the currently evolving legal issues regarding the MRTMA.

At the same time, the Township could re-evaluate its existing medical marihuana structure. For example, no growers have applied in the three application windows and perhaps those uses are not needed in the Township. Since no MMFLA permits have yet issued (although special land use permits have), the Township could re-examine the number of provisioning centers. This situation may implicate an applicant's procedural due process rights if the right to renew a license is determined to be a property interest. It could also implicate a governmental takings analysis, if a renewal is determined a property right. Therefore, if a reduction in available permits is pursued, a conservative approach would allow existing applicants to continue toward final operations with various avenues to trend overall permitting downward. For example, the Township could wait until existing applicants cease operation or do not renew a permit. Although a reduced number of available medical permits could be implemented relatively quickly, the final number of operating medical facilities would not be known for a number of years. The quicker the number of available provisioning center permits is reduced (if at all), the higher the risk of litigation.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

No path the Township takes completely precludes the potential for litigation. It is important to also note that the petition initiatives in Section 6(1) of the MRTMA have recently been litigated in Michigan courts. Citizens could act to prohibit or restrict recreational marihuana just as much as industry participants could petition to provide the number of available permits. It poses the potential for an interesting set of facts in future years.

We reiterate that the scope of Section 6(5) of the MRTMA regarding the co-location of recreational establishments and medical facilities is unsettled. Thus, licensees may push to expand operations on licensed premises by arguing that any such local limitations are preempted by statute. To our knowledge there is no judicial decision from a circuit (or other) court interpreting the statutory language.

We are happy to discuss with the Township Board in more detail at its upcoming meeting or answer any additional questions or comments from Township Board members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Kuschel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

**MATTHEW A. KUSCHEL**  
**ASSOCIATE**

Direct: 517.381.3162

[mkuschel@fsbriaw.com](mailto:mkuschel@fsbriaw.com)

MAK/sap

**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-01**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN,  
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN BY ADDING CHAPTER 40 COMMERCIAL MEDICAL  
MARIHUANA FACILITIES**

**THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN ORDAINS:**

Section 1. Amendment to the Code of Ordinances by adding Chapter 40. The code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, is hereby amended to add Chapter 40 entitled Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities to read as follows:

**Chapter 40  
COMMERCIAL MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES**

**ARTICLE I  
In General**

**Section 40-1. through 40-25. (Reserved)**

**ARTICLE II  
Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities**

**Section 40-26. Title.**

This Chapter shall be known and cited as the “Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Ordinance of the Charter Township of Meridian.”

**Section 40-27. Definitions.**

The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where context clearly indicates a different meaning:

APPLICATION means an Application for a Permit under this Chapter and includes all supplemental documentation attached or required to be attached thereto; the Person filing the Application shall be the proposed Permit Holder, who may also be referred to as the Applicant.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT means the Charter Township of Meridian Director of Community Planning and Development or his/her designee.

COMMERCIAL MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITY or FACILITY means one of the following:

- (1) Provisioning Center, as that term is defined in the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, Public Act 281 of 2016 (MMFLA);
- (2) Processor, as that term is defined in the MMFLA;
- (3) Secure Transporter, as that term is defined in the MMFLA;

(4) Grower, including Class A, Class B and Class C, as those terms are defined in the MMFLA;

(5) Safety Compliance Facility, as that term is defined in the MMFLA.

DEPARTMENT means the Michigan State Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs or any authorized designated Michigan agency authorized to regulate, issue or administer a Michigan License for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility.

LICENSE means a current and valid License for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility issued by the Department. Prequalification, provisional licenses, or temporary licenses are not Licenses under this Chapter.

LICENSEE means a Person holding a current and valid Michigan License for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility.

MARIHUANA means that term as defined in Section 7106 of the Michigan Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7106.

MEDICAL MARIHUANA means that term as defined in MCL 333.26423.

PARAPHERNALIA means drug paraphernalia as defined in section 7451 of the Michigan Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7451, that is or may be used in association with Medical Marihuana.

PATIENT means a “registered qualifying patient” or a “visiting qualifying patient” as those terms are defined by MCL 333.26421, et seq.

PERMIT means a current and valid Permit for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility issued under this Chapter, which shall be granted to a Permit Holder only for and limited to a specific Permitted Premises and a specific Permitted Property. Said Permit shall be in addition to the special use permit required to be obtained under the Township Zoning Ordinance.

PERMIT HOLDER means the Person that holds a current and valid Permit issued under this Chapter.

PERMITTED PREMISES means the particular building or buildings within which the Permit Holder will be authorized to conduct the Facility’s activities pursuant to the Permit.

PERMITTED PROPERTY means the real property comprised of a lot, parcel or other designated unit of real property upon which the Permitted Premises is situated.

PERSON means a natural person, company, partnership, profit or non-profit corporation, limited liability company, or any joint venture for a common purpose.

PUBLIC PLACE means any area in which the public is invited or generally permitted in the usual course of business.

REGISTRY IDENTIFICATION CARD means the document issued to a Patient or a Primary Caregiver and defined under MCL 333.26423(i).

**Section 40-28. Permit Required; Number of Permits Available; Eligibility; General Provisions.**

1. The Township hereby authorizes the operation of the following types of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities, subject to the number of available Permits issued in this Section:
  - a. Growers, Class A
  - b. Growers, Class B
  - c. Growers, Class C
  - d. Processors
  - e. Provisioning Centers
  - f. Safety Compliance Facilities
  - g. Secure Transporters
2. The number of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility Permits in effect at any time shall not exceed the following maximums within the Township:
  - a. Grower Permits, Class A, Class B, and Class C: 3, regardless of type
  - b. Processor Permits: 3
  - c. Provisioning Center Permits: 6
  - d. Safety Compliance Facility Permits: 3
  - e. Secure Transporter Permits: 3
  - f. No more than one Provisioning Center shall be located in any single Overlay Area except for Overlay Area 4, Section 86-445, where a Provisioning Center is not an allowed use. If any Overlay Area except for Overlay Area 4 has zero Provisioning Centers granted or under renewal and zero conditionally approved at the time set for the lottery, then a second Provisioning Center may be added to another Overlay Area. No Overlay Area shall have more than two Provisioning Centers.
3. No Person shall operate a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility at any time or any location within the Township unless a currently-effective Permit for that Person at that location has been issued under this Chapter.
4. Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities shall operate only as allowed under this Chapter.
5. The requirements set forth in this Chapter shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other licensing or permitting requirements imposed by applicable federal, state or local laws, regulations, codes or ordinances.

6. An Applicant shall pay Application fees, annual fees, renewal fees and inspection fees for Permits to the Township to defray the costs incurred by the Township for inspection, administration and enforcement of the local regulations regarding Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities. The Township Board shall by resolution set the fees in an amount not to exceed any limitations imposed by Michigan law.
7. A Permit and a Renewal Permit shall not confer any vested rights or reasonable expectation of subsequent renewal on the Applicant or Permit Holder, and shall remain valid for one year immediately following its approval.
8. Each year, any pending Applications for renewal or amendment of valid, unexpired Permits shall be reviewed and granted or denied before Applications for new Permits are considered.
9. It is the sole and exclusive responsibility of each Permit Holder or Person applying to be a Permit Holder at all times during the Application period and during its operation to immediately provide the Township with all material changes in any information submitted on an Application and any other changes that may materially affect any License or its Permit.
10. No Permit issued under this Chapter may be assigned or transferred to any Person unless the assignee or transferee has submitted an Application and all required fees under this Chapter and has been granted a Permit by the Director of Community Planning and Development. No Permit issued under this Chapter is transferrable to any other location except for the Permitted Premises on the Permitted Property.
11. The original Permit issued under this Chapter shall be prominently displayed at the Permitted Premises in a location where it can be easily viewed by the public, law enforcement and administrative authorities.
12. Acceptance by the Permit Holder of a Permit constitutes consent by the Permit Holder and its owners, officers, managers, agents and employees for any state, federal or local law enforcement to conduct random and unannounced examinations of the Facility and all articles of property in that Facility at any time to ensure compliance with this Chapter, any other local regulations, and with the Permit.
13. A Permit Holder may not engage in any other Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility in the Permitted Premises or on the Permitted Property, or in its name at any other location within the Township, without first obtaining a separate Permit.

#### **Section 40-29. Other Laws and Ordinances.**

In addition to the terms of this Chapter, any Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility shall comply with all Township Ordinances, including without limitation the Township Zoning Ordinance, and with all other applicable federal, state and local ordinances, laws, codes and regulations. To the extent that the terms of this Chapter are in conflict with the terms of any other applicable federal, state or local ordinances, laws, codes or regulations, the terms of the most restrictive ordinance, law, code or regulation shall control.

## **Section 40-30. Application for and Renewal of Permits.**

1. Application. An Application for a Permit for a Facility shall be submitted to the Director of Community Planning and Development per permitted premise, and shall contain the following information:
  - a. The name, address, phone number and e-mail address of the proposed Permit Holder and the proposed Commercial Medical Marijuana Facility.
  - b. The names, home addresses and personal phone numbers for all owners, directors, officers and managers of the Permit Holder and the Commercial Medical Marijuana Facility.
  - c. One (1) copy of all the following:
    - 1) To encourage both local industry and also well-qualified applicants, at least two of the following items:
      - i) An official statement issued by the Department indicating that the Applicant has successfully completed prequalification for a License, if any. Copies of Entity/Individual Prequalification Packets and Supplemental Applicant Prequalification Packets or investigations conducted by the Department (if available) shall be provided.
      - ii) Proof that the Applicant or owners of at least 75% of the Applicant are current Township residents and were residents for at least twelve months prior to filing the Application. Any proof of residency must be satisfactory to the Township and must include more than one of the following: residential leases, tax or special assessment bills, utility bills (water, sewer, electric, gas, cable, internet, etc.), credit card bills, voter registration, driver license, tax returns, or homeowner insurance policies, showing current and at least 12 months' prior residence in the Township. The Applicant's majority shareholders, managing members, or managing partners must submit the same information.
      - iii) Applicant's Certification on a form provided by the Township restricting transfer of the Permit and subsequent renewed Permits, and restricting the transfer of any interest in the Permit Holder for a period of not less than 30 months after issuance of the Permit and License. This commitment shall be enforceable severally or jointly by the Township against the Applicant, Permit Holder, and any members or shareholders thereof.

- 2) All documentation showing the proposed Permit Holder's valid tenancy, ownership or other legal interest in the proposed Permitted Property and Permitted Premises. If the Applicant is not the owner of the proposed Permitted Property and Permitted Premises, a notarized statement from the owner of such property authorizing the use of the property for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility. A property owner shall only enter into one notarized statement per property with one prospective Permit Holder for each lottery drawing. All documentation establishing that the Permitted Premises and Permitted Property are within an overlay area with available permits.
- 3) If the proposed Permit Holder is a corporation, non-profit organization, limited liability company or any other entity other than a natural person, it must indicate its legal status, attach a copy of all company formation documents (including amendments), proof of registration with the State of Michigan, and a certificate of good standing with the State of Michigan.
- 4) A valid, unexpired driver's license or state issued ID for all owners, directors, officers and managers of the proposed Facility.
- 5) Evidence of a valid sales tax license for the business if such a license is required by state law or local regulations.
- 6) Application for Sign Permit, if any sign is proposed.
- 7) Non-refundable Application fee.
- 8) Business and Operations Plan, showing in detail the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility's proposed plan of operation, including without limitation, the following:
  - i. A description of the type of Facility proposed and the anticipated or actual number of employees.
  - ii. A security plan meeting the requirements of Section 40-31(3) of this Chapter, which shall include a general description of the security systems(s), current centrally alarmed and monitored security system service agreement for the proposed Permitted Premises, and confirmation that those systems will meet State requirements and be approved by the State prior to commencing operations.
  - iii. A description by category of all products to be sold.
  - iv. A list of Material Safety Data Sheets for all nutrients, pesticides, and other chemicals proposed for use in the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility.

- v. A description and plan of all equipment and methods that will be employed to stop any impact to adjacent uses, including enforceable assurances that no odor will be detectable from outside of the Permitted Premises.
  - vi. A plan for the disposal of Marihuana and related byproducts that will be used at the Facility.
- 9) An identification of any business that is directly or indirectly involved in the growing, processing, testing, transporting or sale of Marihuana for the Facility.
  - 10) Whether any Applicant has ever applied for or has been granted any commercial license or certificate issued by a licensing authority in Michigan or any other jurisdiction that has been denied, restricted, suspended, revoked, or not renewed and a statement describing the facts and circumstances concerning the application, denial, restriction, suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal, including the licensing authority, the date each action was taken, and the reason for each action.
  - 11) Signed and sealed (by Michigan registered architect, surveyor or professional engineer) site plan and interior floor plan of the Permitted Premises and the Permitted Property.
  - 12) Information regarding any other Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility that the Licensee is authorized to operate in any other jurisdiction within the State, or another State, and the Applicant's involvement in each Facility.
  - 13) Applicant and all related Persons consent to a background check conducted by the Township or any agency used by the Township to complete such checks.
- d. Any other information reasonably requested by the Township to be relevant to the processing or consideration of the Application.
  - e. If the Director of Community Planning and Development identifies or is informed of a deficiency in an Application, the Applicant shall have five (5) business days to correct the deficiency after notification by the Director of Community Planning and Development.
  - f. Information obtained from the Applicant or proposed Permit Holder is exempt from public disclosure under state law.

2. Receipt of Applications.
  - a. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall accept Applications for new permits during normal business hours on the second Tuesday in January at the Township Hall. Notice of the day, time, and place shall be given by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township, which shall be at least 10 days before the date set to accept the Applications. The notice shall also be posted on the Township's website, if any.
  - b. Notwithstanding Section 40-30(2)(a), the Director of Community Planning and Development may accept Applications for new permits on dates, times, and places as he deems appropriate. Before accepting any Applications on a date other than permitted by Section 40-30(2)(a), notice of the day, time, and place shall be given by publication twice in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township, the first of which shall be at least 10 days before the date set to accept the Applications. The notice shall also be posted on the Township's website, if any.
3. Denial of Application.
  - a. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall reject any Application that does not meet the requirements of the MMFLA or this Chapter. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall reject any Application that contains any false, misleading, or incomplete information.
  - b. An Applicant whose Application is rejected or denied because of missing, incomplete, erroneous, false, or misleading information, or because of a lack of submission of the full amount of the fees due, does not have a right to an administrative appeal of the decision.
4. Issuance of Conditional Approval.
  - a. Complete Applications for a Commercial Medical Marijuana Facility Permit determined to be in full compliance with the requirements of this Chapter shall be issued conditional approval in accordance with the procedures specified in this Section.
  - b. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall issue a conditional approval if:
    - 1) The background checks are complete and satisfactory;
    - 2) The Applicant has submitted satisfactory proof in two of the three following categories:
      - i. Official statement issued by the Department, pursuant to Section 40-30(1)(c)(1)(i).

ii. Proof of residency within the Township pursuant to Section 40-30(1)(c)((1)(ii).

iii. A certificate pursuant to Section 40-30(1)(c)(1)(iii).

3) All other information available to the Township verifies that the Applicant as a grower, processor, provisioning center, safety compliance facility, secure transporter has submitted a full and complete Application and is in compliance with the Township Code of Ordinances and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation.

c. A conditional approval only means that the Applicant has submitted a valid Application for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility Permit and is eligible for the lottery.

d. Within (30) thirty days from the issuance of a conditional approval the Applicant shall submit proof to the Township that the Applicant has applied for prequalification for a License or has submitted a full application for such License, unless such information was provided in the Application. If the Applicant fails to submit such proof, the conditional approval shall be void, the application denied, and any lottery position void.

e. A conditional approval and any lottery selection shall be void if an Applicant is denied prequalification for a License or is denied a License. Such denial shall be provided immediately to the Director of Community Planning and Development.

f. A conditional approval does not prevent the Director of Community Planning and Development from requesting additional documentation, as required or permitted under this Chapter.

5. Lottery; Order of Special Use Permit Applications.

a. After all Applications have been either granted conditional approval or denied the Director of Community Planning and Development shall then sort the Applications by the type of facility permit requested.

b. Each conditionally approved application will be entered in a lottery by facility type to determine which Applications may submit special use permit applications. Each facility type shall be drawn by random lottery as follows:

- 1) For Provisioning Centers, the applications shall be additionally sorted by their zoning overlay area. For each overlay area, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall randomly draw the name or number of each Provisioning Center Applicant until all conditionally approved applications are drawn in each overlay area. The Applicant of each first Provisioning Center drawn in each overlay area may then apply for a special use permit. If any bonus second provisioning center is available under Section 40-28(2)(f), then each overlay area with more than one conditionally approved provisioning center application shall itself be drawn by random lottery until all bonus second provisioning center overlay areas have been awarded. The Applicant of each second Provisioning Center drawn in each overlay area awarded a bonus may then apply for a special use permit.
  - 2) For each other facility type, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall randomly draw the name or number of the Applicants until all conditionally approved applications are drawn.
  - 3) The number of special use permit applications submitted may not exceed the number of available Permits under this Chapter. In each facility type, the number of Applicants drawn equal to the available Permits under this Chapter at the time of the lottery may apply for a special use permit. Applicants drawn after the number of available Permits will retain that lottery position as provided in this Chapter.
  - 4) The Director of Community Planning and Development shall maintain a record of the lottery results and order of drawing for each facility type until December 31 of the year in which the lottery occurred. Lottery positions do not confer any right to a Permit under this Chapter.
  - 5) All lottery drawings shall be conducted publicly by the Director of Community Planning and Development with the date and time published on the Township's website and all entrants provided notice.
- c. All special use permit applications must be submitted within 60 days of the lottery or notice under this sub-section. If the Applicant does not submit a special use permit application or a special use permit is denied and all appeals are exhausted, then the Director of Community Planning and Development may consult the lottery results and notify the next Applicant that they may apply for a special use permit.

6. **Renewal Application.** The same requirements that apply to all new Applications for a Permit, except for special use permit and lottery requirements, shall apply to all Renewal Applications. Renewal Applications shall be submitted to and received by the Director of Community Planning and Development not less than ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the annual Permit, except that an Application requesting a change in the location of the Permitted Premises shall be submitted and received not less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the expiration of the Permit. A Permit Holder whose Permit expires and for which a complete Renewal Application has not been received by the expiration date shall be deemed to have forfeited the Permit under this Chapter. The Township will not accept Renewal Applications after the expiration date of the Permit.
  
7. **Issuance of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Permit.**
  - a. An inspection of the proposed Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility by the Township shall be required prior to issuance of the Permit. Such inspection shall occur after the premises are ready for operation, but prior to the stocking of the business with any medical marihuana, and prior to the opening of the business or commencement of operations. The inspection is to verify that the business facilities are constructed and can be operated in accordance with the Application submitted and the applicable requirements of this Chapter, the Special Use Permit, and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation.
  - b. After verification the facilities are constructed and can be operated in accordance with the Application submitted and the applicable requirements of this Chapter, the Special Use Permit, and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation, and the issuance of a permanent certificate of occupancy for the facility, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall issue the Permit for a term of one (1) year.
  - c. Maintaining a valid License is a condition for the issuance and maintenance of the Permit issued under this Chapter and the continued operation of any marihuana facility.
  - d. An Applicant or Permit Holder has a duty to notify the Director of Community Planning and Development in writing of any pending criminal charge, and any criminal conviction of a felony or other offense involving a crime of moral turpitude by the Applicant, any owner, principal officer, director, manager, or employee within ten (10) days of the event.

- e. An Applicant or Permit Holder has a duty to notify the Director of Community Planning and Development in writing of any pending criminal charge, and any criminal conviction, whether a felony, misdemeanor, petty offense, or any violation of a local law related to the cultivation, processing, manufacture, storage, sale, distribution, testing or consumption of any form of marihuana, the MMMA, the MMFLA, any building, fire, health or zoning statute, code or ordinance related to the cultivation, processing, manufacture, storage, sale, distribution, testing or consumption of any form of marihuana by the Applicant, any owner, principal officer, director, manager, or employee within (10) ten days of the event.
8. Applications for new Permits where no building is as yet in existence. Any Applicant for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility Permit whose building is not yet in existence at the time of the Township's initial approval shall have one year immediately following the date of the Township's initial approval to complete construction of the building, in accordance with applicable zoning ordinances, building codes, and any other applicable state or local laws, rules or regulations, and to commence business operations.
9. Duty to Supplement. If, at any time before or after a Permit is issued pursuant to this Chapter, any information required in the Application, the MMFLA, or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder, changes in any way from that which is stated in the Application, the Applicant or Licensee shall supplement such information in writing within ten (10) days from the date upon which such change occurs.
10. Permit Forfeiture. In the event that a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility does not commence operations within one year of issuance of a Township Permit, the Permit shall be deemed forfeited; the facility may not commence operations and the Permit is not eligible for renewal.

**Section 40-31. Operational Requirements – Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities.**

A Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility issued a Permit under this Chapter and operating in the Township shall at all times comply with the following operational requirements, which the Township Board may review and amend from time to time as it determines reasonable.

1. *Scope of Operation.* Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities shall comply with all respective applicable codes of the local zoning, building, fire, and health departments. The Facility must hold a valid unexpired Permit and License for the type of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility intended to be carried out within the Permitted Premises on the Permitted Property. The Facility operator, owner, Permit Holder, or Licensee must have documentation available that local and State sales tax requirements, including holding any licenses, if applicable, are satisfied.

2. *Required Documentation.* Each Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility shall be operated from the Permitted Premises on the Permitted Property. No Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility shall be permitted to operate from a moveable, mobile or transitory location, except for a Permitted and Licensed Secure Transporter when engaged in the lawful transport of Marihuana. No Person under the age of eighteen (18) shall be allowed to enter into the Permitted Premises without a parent or legal guardian.
3. *Security.* Permit Holders shall at all times maintain a security system that meets state law requirements, and shall also include the following:
  - a. Security surveillance cameras installed to monitor all entrances, along with the interior and exterior of the Permitted Premises.
  - b. Robbery and burglary alarm systems which are professionally monitored and operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
  - c. A locking safe permanently affixed to the Permitted Premises that shall store all Marihuana and cash remaining in the Facility overnight.
  - d. All Marihuana in whatever form stored at the Permitted Premises shall be kept in a secure manner and shall not be visible from outside the Permitted Premises, nor shall it be grown, processed, exchanged, displayed or dispensed outside the Permitted Premises.
  - e. All security recordings and documentation shall be preserved for at least 48 hours by the Permit Holder and made available to any law enforcement upon request for inspection.
4. *Operating Hours.* No Provisioning Center shall operate between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.
5. *Required Spacing.* No Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility shall be located within one-thousand (1,000) feet from any public or private K-12 school, five hundred (500) feet from any church, place of worship or other religious facility, and five hundred (500) feet from any library, preschool, or nearest child care center, with the minimum distance between uses measured horizontally between the nearest property lines.
6. *Amount of Marihuana.* The amount of Marihuana on the Permitted Property and under the control of the Permit Holder, owner or operator of the Facility shall not exceed that amount permitted by the state License or the Township's Permit.
7. *Sale of Marihuana.* The Marihuana offered for sale and distribution must be packaged and labeled in accordance with state law. The Facility is prohibited from selling, soliciting or receiving orders for Marihuana or Marihuana Products over the internet.

8. *Sign Restrictions.* No pictures, photographs, drawings or other depictions of Marihuana or Marihuana Paraphernalia shall appear on the outside of any Permitted Premises nor be visible outside of the Permitted Premises on the Permitted Property. The words “Marihuana,” “cannabis,” and any other words used or intended to convey the presence or availability of Marihuana shall not appear on the outside of the Permitted Premises nor be visible outside of the Permitted Premises on the Permitted Property.
9. *Use of Marihuana.* The sale, consumption or use of alcohol or tobacco products on the Permitted Premises is prohibited. Smoking or consumption of controlled substances, including Marihuana, on the Permitted Premises is prohibited.
10. *Indoor Operation.* All activities of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities, including without limitation, distribution, growth, cultivation, or the sale of Marihuana, and all other related activity permitted under the Permit Holder’s License or Permit must occur indoors. The Facility’s operation and design shall minimize any impact to adjacent uses, including the control of any odor by maintaining and operating an air filtration system so that no odor is detectable outside the Permitted Premises. Mobile facilities and drive-through operations are prohibited.
11. *Unpermitted Growing.* A Patient may not grow his or her own Marihuana at a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility.
12. *Distribution.* No person operating a Facility shall provide or otherwise make available Marihuana to any person who is not legally authorized to receive Marihuana under state law.
13. *Permits.* All necessary building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical permits must be obtained for any part of the Permitted Premises in which electrical, wiring, lighting or watering devices that support the cultivation, growing, harvesting or testing of Marihuana are located.
14. *Waste Disposal.* The permit holder, owner and operator of the Facility shall use lawful methods in controlling waste or by-products from any activities allowed under the License or Permit.
15. *Transportation.* Marihuana may be transported by a Secure Transporter within the Township under this Chapter, and to effectuate its purpose, only:
  - a. By Persons who are otherwise authorized by state law to possess Marihuana for medical purposes;
  - b. In a manner consistent with all applicable state laws and rules, as amended;
  - c. In a secure manner designed to prevent the loss of the Marihuana;

- d. No vehicle used for the transportation or delivery of Marihuana under this Chapter shall have for markings the words “Marihuana,” “cannabis” or any similar words; pictures or other renderings of the Marihuana plant; advertisements for Marihuana or for its sale, transfer, cultivation, delivery, transportation or manufacture, or any other word, phrase or symbol indicating or tending to indicate that the vehicle is transporting Marihuana.
  - e. No vehicle may be used for the ongoing or continuous storage of Marihuana, but may only be used incidental to, and in furtherance of, the transportation of Marihuana.
16. Additional Conditions. The Director of Community Planning and Development may impose such reasonable terms and conditions on a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility special use as may be necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare, and to obtain compliance with the requirements of this Chapter and applicable law.

**Section 40-32. Penalties and Consequences for Violation.**

In addition to any other penalties or legal consequences provided under applicable federal, state and local law, regulations, codes and ordinances:

1. Violations of the provisions of this Chapter or failure to comply with any of the requirements of this Chapter shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any Person who violates this Chapter or fails to comply with any of the requirements of this Chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$500.00, or imprisoned for not more than 90 days, or both, and, in addition, shall pay all costs and expenses involved. Each day the violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.
2. Violations of the provisions of this Chapter or failure to comply with any of the requirements of this Chapter shall be subject to and found responsible for a municipal civil infraction. The fine for any municipal civil infraction shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) plus court costs, attorney fees and abatement costs of each violation, together with all other remedies pursuant to MCL 600.8701, et seq. Each day a violation continues shall be deemed a separate municipal civil infraction.
3. Increased civil fines shall be imposed for repeated violations of any requirement of this Chapter. As used in this subsection, the term “repeat offense” means a second (or any subsequent) municipal civil infraction violation of the same requirement or provision committed within any six-month period and found to be responsible. The increased fine for a repeat offense shall be as follows:
  - a. The fine for any offense which is a first repeat offense shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).
  - b. The fine for any offense which is a second repeat offense or any subsequent repeat offense shall be five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

4. Revocation.
  - a. A Permit issued under this Chapter may be denied, limited, revoked, or restricted under any of the following conditions:
    - 1) Any fraudulent, false, misleading, or material misrepresentation contained in the Application.
    - 2) Repeat violations of any requirements of this Chapter or other applicable law, rule, or regulation. As used in this subsection, the term "repeat offense" means a second (or any subsequent) misdemeanor violation or civil infraction of the same requirement or provision committed within any six-month period and upon conviction or responsibility thereof.
    - 3) A valid License is not maintained as required by this Chapter.
    - 4) The Permit Holder, its agent, manager, or employee failed to timely submit any document or failed to timely make any material disclosure as required by this Chapter.
  - b. If a Permit is revoked or limited under this Chapter, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall issue a notice stating the revocation, limitation, or restriction including the reason for the action and providing a date and time for an evidentiary hearing before the Township Board.
5. The owner of record or tenant of any building, structure or premises, or part thereof, and any architect, builder, contractor, agent or Person who commits, participates in, assists in or maintains such violation may each be found guilty or responsible of a separate offense and suffer the penalties and fines provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, except as excluded from responsibility by state law.
6. In addition to any other remedies, the Township may institute proceedings for injunction, mandamus, abatement or other appropriate remedies to prevent, enjoin, abate or remove any violations of this Chapter. The rights and remedies provided herein are both civil and criminal in nature. The imposition of any fine, jail sentence or forfeiture shall not exempt the violator from compliance with the provisions of this Chapter.

Section 2. Validity and Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and the invalidity of any phrase, clause or part of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remainder of the Ordinance.

Section 3. Repealer Clause. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Ordinance does not affect rights and duties matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun, before its effective date.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its publication.

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Ronald J. Styka, Township Supervisor

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Brett Dreyfus, Township Clerk

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-06**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN,  
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN BY ADDING CHAPTER 40 COMMERCIAL MEDICAL  
MARIHUANA FACILITIES**

**THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN ORDAINS:**

Section 1. Amendment to the Code of Ordinances by adding Chapter 40. The code of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, Chapter 40 entitled Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Chapter 40  
COMMERCIAL MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES**

**ARTICLE II  
Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities**

**Section 40-29. Other Laws and Ordinances.**

In addition to the terms of this chapter, any commercial medical marihuana facility shall comply with all Township ordinances, including without limitation the Township Zoning Ordinance, and with all other applicable state and local ordinances, laws, codes and regulations. To the extent that the terms of this chapter are in conflict with the terms of any other applicable state or local ordinances, laws, codes or regulations, the terms of the most restrictive ordinance, law, code or regulation shall control.

**Section 40-30. Application for and Renewal of Permits.**

1. *Application.* An Application for a Permit for a Facility shall be submitted to the Director of Community Planning and Development per Permitted Premise, and shall contain the following information:
  - a. The name, address, phone number and e-mail address of the Applicant and the proposed Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility.
  - b. The names, home addresses and personal phone numbers for all owners, directors, officers and managers of the Permit Holder and the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility.
  - c. One (1) copy of all the following:
    - 1) To encourage both local industry and also well-qualified applicants, at least two of the following items:
      - i) An official statement issued by the Department indicating that the Applicant has successfully completed prequalification for a License, if any. Copies of Entity/Individual Prequalification

Packets and Supplemental Applicant Prequalification Packets or investigations conducted by the Department (if available) shall be provided.

- ii) Proof that the Applicant or owners of at least 75% of the Applicant are current Township residents and were residents for at least twelve months prior to filing the Application. Any proof of residency must be satisfactory to the Township and must include more than one of the following: residential leases, tax or special assessment bills, utility bills (water, sewer, electric, gas, cable, internet, etc.), credit card bills, voter registration, driver license, tax returns, or homeowner insurance policies, showing current and at least 12 months' prior residence in the Township. The Applicant's majority shareholders, managing members, or managing partners must submit the same information.
  - iii) Applicant's Certification on a form provided by the Township restricting transfer of the Permit and subsequent renewed Permits, and restricting the transfer of any interest in the Permit Holder for a period of not less than 30 months after issuance of the Permit and License. This commitment shall be enforceable severally or jointly by the Township against the Applicant, Permit Holder, and any owners of the Applicant or Permit Holder.
- 2) All documentation showing the Applicant's valid tenancy, ownership or other legal interest in the proposed Permitted Property and Permitted Premises. If the Applicant is not the owner of the proposed Permitted Property and Permitted Premises, a notarized statement from the owner of such property authorizing the use of the property for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility. A property owner shall only enter into one notarized statement per property with one prospective permit holder for each lottery drawing. All documentation establishing that the Permitted Premises and Permitted Property are within an overlay area with available permits.
  - 3) If the Applicant is a corporation, non-profit organization, limited liability company or any other entity other than a natural person, it must indicate its legal status, attach a copy of all company formation documents (including amendments), proof of registration with the State of Michigan, and a certificate of good standing with the State of Michigan.
  - 4) A valid, unexpired driver's license or state issued ID for all owners, directors, officers and managers of the proposed Facility.
  - 5) Evidence of a valid sales tax license for the business if such a license is required by state law or local regulations.

- 6) Application for Sign Permit, if any sign is proposed.
- 7) Non-refundable Application fee.
- 8) Business and Operations Plan, showing in detail the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility's proposed plan of operation, including without limitation, the following:
  - i. A description of the type of Facility proposed and the anticipated or actual number of employees.
  - ii. A security plan meeting the requirements of Section 40-31(3) of this Chapter, which shall include a general description of the security systems(s), current centrally alarmed and monitored security system service agreement for the proposed Permitted Premises, and confirmation that those systems will meet State requirements and be approved by the State prior to commencing operations.
  - iii. A description by category of all products to be sold.
  - iv. A list of Material Safety Data Sheets for all nutrients, pesticides, and other chemicals proposed for use in the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility.
  - v. A description and plan of all equipment and methods that will be employed to stop any impact to adjacent uses, including enforceable assurances that no odor will be detectable from outside of the Permitted Premises.
  - vi. A plan for the disposal of Marihuana and related byproducts that will be used at the Facility.
- 9) An identification of any business that is directly or indirectly involved in the growing, processing, testing, transporting or sale of Marihuana for the Facility.
- 10) Whether any Applicant, owner, partner, director, officer, or manager of the Applicant or any entity owned or controlled by any owner, partner, director, officer, or manager of the Applicant has ever applied for or has been granted any commercial license or certificate issued by a licensing authority in Michigan or any other jurisdiction that has been denied, restricted, suspended, revoked, or not renewed and a statement describing the facts and circumstances concerning the application, denial, restriction, suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal, including the licensing authority, the date each action was taken, and the reason for each action.

**Medical Marihuana Non-Zoning Ordinance**

**May 19, 2020 Revision**

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- 11) Signed and sealed (by Michigan registered architect, surveyor or professional engineer) site plan and interior floor plan of the Permitted Premises and the Permitted Property.
  - 12) Information regarding any other Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility, Marihuana Establishment, similar Permit or License, or any other marihuana business or venture that the Applicant, or any owner, partner, director, officer, or manager of the Applicant or any entity owned or controlled in whole or part by any owner, partner, director, officer, or manager of the Applicant is authorized to operate in any other jurisdiction within the State, or another State, and the Applicant's involvement in each Facility.
  - 13) Applicant and all related Persons consent to a background check conducted by the Township or any agency used by the Township to complete such checks.
- d. Any other information reasonably requested by the Township to be relevant to the processing or consideration of the Application.
  - e. If the Director of Community Planning and Development identifies or is informed of a deficiency in an Application, the Applicant shall have five (5) business days to correct the deficiency after notification by the Director of Community Planning and Development.
  - f. Information obtained from the Applicant or Permit Holder is exempt from public disclosure under state law.

2. *Receipt of Applications.*

- a. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall accept Applications for new permits during normal business hours on the second Tuesday in January at the Township Hall. Notice of the day, time, and place shall be given by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township, which shall be at least 10 days before the date set to accept the Applications. The notice shall also be posted on the Township's website, if any.
- b. Notwithstanding Section 40-30(2)(a), the Director of Community Planning and Development may accept Applications for new permits on dates, times, and places as he deems appropriate. Before accepting any Applications on a date other than permitted by Section 40-30(2)(a), notice of the day, time, and place shall be given by publication twice in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township, the first of which shall be at least 10 days before the date set to accept the Applications. The notice shall also be posted on the Township's website, if any.

3. *Denial of Application.*

**Medical Marihuana Non-Zoning Ordinance**

**May 19, 2020 Revision**

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- a. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall reject any Application that does not meet the requirements of the MMFLA or this Chapter. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall reject any Application that contains any false, misleading, or incomplete information.
  - b. An Applicant whose Application is rejected or denied because of missing, incomplete, erroneous, false, or misleading information, or because of a lack of submission of the full amount of the fees due, does not have a right to an administrative appeal of the decision.
4. *Issuance of Conditional Approval.*
- a. Complete Applications for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility Permit determined to be in full compliance with the requirements of this Chapter shall be issued conditional approval in accordance with the procedures specified in this Section.
  - b. The Director of Community Planning and Development shall issue a conditional approval if:
    - 1) The background checks are complete and satisfactory;
    - 2) The Applicant has submitted satisfactory proof in two of the three following categories:
      - i. Official statement issued by the Department, pursuant to Section 40-30(1)(c)(1)(i).
      - ii. Proof of residency within the Township pursuant to Section 40-30(1)(c)(1)(ii).
      - iii. A certificate pursuant to Section 40-30(1)(c)(1)(iii).
    - 3) All other information available to the Township verifies that the Applicant as a grower, processor, provisioning center, safety compliance facility, secure transporter has submitted a full and complete Application and is in compliance with the Township Code of Ordinances and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation.
  - c. A conditional approval only means that the Applicant has submitted a valid Application for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility Permit and is eligible for the lottery.
  - d. Within (30) thirty days from the issuance of a conditional approval the Applicant shall submit proof to the Township that the Applicant has applied

for prequalification for a License or has submitted a full application for such License, unless such information was provided in the Application. If the Applicant fails to submit such proof, the conditional approval shall be void, the application denied, and any lottery position void.

- e. A conditional approval and any lottery selection shall be void if an Applicant is denied prequalification for a License or is denied a License. Such denial shall be provided immediately to the Director of Community Planning and Development.
- f. The Director of Community Planning and Development may refuse to issue a conditional approval if the Applicant or any owner, partner, director, or officer of the Applicant or any entity owned or controlled in whole or part by the Applicant or any owner, partner, director, or officer of the Applicant previously submitted an application and failed to commence either operation or construction within one year from the time the Township grants the special use permit for the same Permitted Property.
- g. A conditional approval does not prevent the Director of Community Planning and Development from requesting additional documentation, as required or permitted under this Chapter.

5. *Lottery; Order of Special Use Permit Applications.*

- a. After all Applications have been either granted conditional approval or denied the Director of Community Planning and Development shall then sort the Applications by the type of facility permit requested.
- b. Each conditionally approved Application will be entered in a lottery by facility type to determine which Applications may submit special use permit applications. Each facility type shall be drawn by random lottery as follows:
  - 1) For Provisioning Centers, the applications shall be additionally sorted by their zoning overlay area. For each overlay area, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall randomly draw the name or number of each Provisioning Center Applicant until all conditionally approved applications are drawn in each overlay area. The Applicant of each first Provisioning Center drawn in each overlay area may then apply for a special use permit. If any bonus second provisioning center is available under Section 40-28(2)(f), then each overlay area with more than one conditionally approved provisioning center application shall itself be drawn by random lottery until all bonus second provisioning center overlay areas have been awarded. The Applicant of each second Provisioning Center drawn in each overlay area awarded a bonus may then apply for a special use permit.
  - 2) For each other facility type, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall randomly draw the name or number of the Applicants until all conditionally approved applications are drawn.

- 3) The number of special use permit applications submitted may not exceed the number of available Permits under this Chapter. In each facility type, the number of Applicants drawn equal to the available Permits under this Chapter at the time of the lottery may apply for a special use permit. Applicants drawn after the number of available Permits will retain that lottery position as provided in this Chapter.
  - 4) The Director of Community Planning and Development shall maintain a record of the lottery results and order of drawing for each facility type for 14 months after the first special use permit is approved in each overlay area from the lottery after which time they will expire and be invalid. Subsequent lotteries for any facility types shall have secondary priority to earlier results until the earlier results expire. To retain a lottery position, an Applicant must submit a renewal application under this Ordinance. Lottery positions do not confer any right to a Permit under this Chapter.
  - 5) All lottery drawings shall be conducted publicly by the Director of Community Planning and Development with the date and time published on the Township's website and all entrants provided notice.
- c. An applicant is encouraged to discuss the requirements for a special use permit and submit a conceptual plan within 21 days of selection under this sub-section in order that preliminary technical deficiencies may be addressed prior to submittal of the application for a special use permit. All special use permit applications must be complete as provided in § 86-124 of the Code of Ordinances and submitted within 60 days of the lottery or notice under this sub-section. If the Director of Community Planning and Development identifies or is informed of a deficiency in the special use permit application, the Applicant shall have 30 days to correct the deficiency after notification by the Director of Community Planning and Development. If the Applicant does not submit a special use permit application, does not submit supplemental material curing an identified defect, or a special use permit is denied and all appeals are exhausted, then the Director of Community Planning and Development may consult the lottery results and notify the next Applicant that they may apply for a special use permit.

6. *Renewal Application.*

- a. The same requirements that apply to all new Applications for a Permit, except for special use permit and lottery requirements, shall apply to all Renewal Applications. If an Applicant has been selected in the lottery or submitted a special use permit application but a Permit has not been issued under this Chapter, then the Applicant must submit a renewal application.
- b. A Renewal Application may expressly incorporate by reference information or documentation contained in the original Application

or prior Renewal Application, making it clear where such information or documentation can be found, provided that the Permit Holder certifies that the information or documentation has not changed.

- c. Renewal Applications shall be submitted to and received by the Director of Community Planning and Development not less than ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the annual Permit or if a Permit has not been issued under this Ordinance then not less than ninety (90) days prior to the anniversary of the lottery at which the Applicant was selected under this Ordinance. Any Application requesting a change in the location of the Permitted Premises shall be submitted and received not less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the expiration of the Permit.
- d. A Permit Holder or Applicant whose Permit, lottery selection, or lottery position expires and for which a complete Renewal Application has not been received by the expiration date shall be deemed to have forfeited the Permit, lottery selection, or lottery position under this Chapter. The Township will not accept Renewal Applications after the expiration date of the Permit or lottery.

7. *Issuance of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Permit.*

- a. An inspection of the proposed Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility by the Township shall be required prior to issuance of the Permit. Such inspection shall occur after the premises are ready for operation, but prior to the stocking of the business with any medical marihuana, and prior to the opening of the business or commencement of operations. The inspection is to verify that the business facilities are constructed and can be operated in accordance with the Application submitted and the applicable requirements of this Chapter, the Special Use Permit, and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation.
- b. After verification the facilities are constructed and can be operated in accordance with the Application and any renewal submitted and the applicable requirements of this Chapter, the Special Use Permit, and any other applicable law, rule, or regulation, and the issuance of a permanent certificate of occupancy for the facility, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall issue the Permit for a term of one (1) year.
- c. Maintaining a valid License is a condition for the issuance and maintenance of the Permit issued under this Chapter and the continued operation of any marihuana facility.
- d. An Applicant or Permit Holder has a duty to notify the Director of Community Planning and Development in writing of any pending criminal charge, and any criminal conviction of a felony or other offense involving a crime of moral turpitude by the Applicant, any owner, principal officer, director, manager, or employee within ten (10) days of the event.

- e. An Applicant or Permit Holder has a duty to notify the Director of Community Planning and Development in writing of any pending criminal charge, and any criminal conviction, whether a felony, misdemeanor, petty offense, or any violation of a local law related to the cultivation, processing, manufacture, storage, sale, distribution, testing or consumption of any form of marihuana, the MMMA, the MMFLA, any building, fire, health or zoning statute, code or ordinance related to the cultivation, processing, manufacture, storage, sale, distribution, testing or consumption of any form of marihuana by the Applicant, any owner, principal officer, director, manager, or employee within (10) ten days of the event.
8. *Applications for new Permits where no building is as yet in existence.* Any Applicant for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility Permit whose building is not yet in existence at the time the Township grants the special use permit shall have one year immediately following the date of the Township's special use permit approval to start construction of the building, in accordance with applicable zoning ordinances, building codes, and any other applicable state or local laws, rules or regulations. Start of construction means the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, the installation of piles, construction of columns, or other work beyond the stage of excavation. If the Facility does not commence operations within one year of the start of construction, then the conditional approval, application, and any lottery selection shall be forfeited as provided for in subsection 10 below.
9. *Duty to Supplement.* If, at any time before or after a Permit is issued pursuant to this Chapter, any information required in the Application, the MMFLA, or any rule or regulation promulgated thereunder, changes in any way from that which is stated in the Application, the Applicant or Licensee shall supplement such information in writing within ten (10) days from the date upon which such change occurs.
10. *Permit Forfeiture.* In the event that a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility does not commence operations within one year from the time the Township grants the special use permit or start of construction, any Permit, conditional approval, application, and any lottery selection shall be deemed forfeited and the Facility may not commence operations and the Permit, conditional approval, application, and any lottery selection is not eligible for renewal.

**Section 40-32. Penalties and Consequences for Violation.**

In addition to any other penalties or legal consequences provided under applicable state and local law, regulations, codes and ordinances:

1. Violations of the provisions of this Chapter or failure to comply with any of the requirements of this Chapter shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any Person who violates this Chapter or fails to comply with any of the requirements of this Chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$500.00, or imprisoned for not more than 90 days, or both, and, in

addition, shall pay all costs and expenses involved. Each day the violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

2. Violations of the provisions of this Chapter or failure to comply with any of the requirements of this Chapter shall be subject to and found responsible for a municipal civil infraction. The fine for any municipal civil infraction shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) plus court costs, attorney fees and abatement costs of each violation, together with all other remedies pursuant to MCL 600.8701, et seq. Each day a violation continues shall be deemed a separate municipal civil infraction.
3. Increased civil fines shall be imposed for repeated violations of any requirement of this Chapter. As used in this subsection, the term "repeat offense" means a second (or any subsequent) municipal civil infraction violation of the same requirement or provision committed within any six-month period and found to be responsible. The increased fine for a repeat offense shall be as follows:
  - a. The fine for any offense which is a first repeat offense shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).
  - b. The fine for any offense which is a second repeat offense or any subsequent repeat offense shall be five thousand dollars (\$5,000).
4. Non-Renewal or Revocation.
  - a. A Permit issued under this Chapter may be denied, limited, revoked, or restricted under any of the following conditions:
    - 1) Any fraudulent, false, misleading, or material misrepresentation contained in the Application.
    - 2) Repeat violations of any requirements of this Chapter or other applicable law, rule, or regulation. As used in this subsection, the term "repeat offense" means a second (or any subsequent) misdemeanor violation or civil infraction of the same requirement or provision committed within any six-month period and upon conviction or responsibility thereof.
    - 3) A valid License is not maintained as required by this Chapter.
    - 4) The Permit Holder, its agent, manager, or employee failed to timely submit any document or failed to timely make any material disclosure as required by this Chapter.
  - b. Non-Renewal. If an Applicant has applied for a special use permit and fails to diligently pursue commencement of operations, including but not limited to, submitting a complete site plan for site plan review, submitting a complete building permit, or applying for other permits as provided for in this Ordinance, then the Director of Community Planning and Development may deny any renewal application or any subsequent application submitted by the

Applicant or any owner, partner, director, or officer of the Applicant or any entity owned or controlled in whole or part by any owner, partner, director, or officer of the Applicant.

- c. If a Permit is revoked or limited under this Chapter, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall issue a notice stating the revocation, limitation, or restriction including the reason for the action and providing a date and time for an evidentiary hearing before the Township Board.
5. The owner of record or tenant of any building, structure or premises, or part thereof, and any architect, builder, contractor, agent or Person who commits, participates in, assists in or maintains such violation may each be found guilty or responsible of a separate offense and suffer the penalties and fines provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, except as excluded from responsibility by state law.
6. In addition to any other remedies, the Township may institute proceedings for injunction, mandamus, abatement or other appropriate remedies to prevent, enjoin, abate or remove any violations of this Chapter. The rights and remedies provided herein are both civil and criminal in nature. The imposition of any fine, jail sentence or forfeiture shall not exempt the violator from compliance with the provisions of this Chapter.

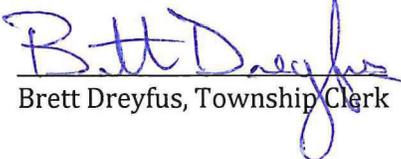
Section 2. Validity and Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and the invalidity of any phrase, clause or part of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remainder of the Ordinance.

Section 3. Repealer Clause. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict therewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 4. Savings Clause. This Ordinance does not affect rights and duties matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun, before its effective date.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its publication.

  
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Ronald J. Styka, Township Supervisor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brett Dreyfus, Township Clerk

## **Section 86-2 Definitions.**

“Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility” or “Facility” means one of the following:

- a. “Provisioning Center,” as that term is defined in the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act, Public Act 281 of 2016 (“MMFLA”);
- b. “Processor,” as that term is defined in the MMFLA;
- c. “Secure Transporter,” as that term in the MMFLA;
- d. “Grower,” including Class A, Class B and Class C, as those terms are defined in the MMFLA;
- e. “Safety Compliance Facility,” as that term is defined in the MMFLA.

“Marihuana” means that term as defined in Section 7106 of the Michigan Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7106.

“Medical Marihuana” means that term as defined in MCL 333.26423.

“Patient” means a “registered qualifying patient” or a “visiting qualifying patient” as those terms are defined by MCL 333.26421, et seq.

“Permit” means a current and valid permit for a Commercial Medical Marihuana Facility issued under the Charter Township of Meridian Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities, Charter Township of Meridian Ordinance No. 2019-01, which shall be granted to a Permit Holder only for and limited to a specific Permitted Premises and a specific Permitted Property. Said Permit shall be in addition to the Special Use Permit required to be obtained under this Zoning Ordinance.

“Person” means a natural person, company, partnership, profit or non-profit corporation, limited liability company, or any joint venture for a common purpose.

## **Section 86-445. Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Overlay District.**

(a) Applicability. The Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities overlay district shall apply to all lots within the areas shown on Maps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (the “Overlay Areas”). All lots included in the overlay district shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed in this section, in addition to the terms and conditions imposed by the zoning district where such lots may be located, any other applicable ordinance and the requirements of Section (Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities).

(b) Uses permitted by right. All uses permitted by right in the underlying zoning districts.

(c) Uses permitted by special use permit. All uses permitted by special use permit in the underlying zoning district and all types of Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities subject to the number of available Permits allowed per Section (Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities).

(d) Uses not permitted. Any use not permitted in the underlying zoning district is not permitted in the Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities overlay district.

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**Commercial Medical Marihuana Facilities Overlay District**  
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(e) Permitted locations.

1. Grower Class A, Class B, or Class C only in Overlay Areas 1, 4 and 6 on property zoned I (Industrial).
2. Processor only in Overlay Areas 1, 4 and 6 on property zoned I (Industrial).
3. Provisioning Center only in Overlay Areas 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 on property zoned I (Industrial), C-1, C-2, or C-3 (Commercial) and RP (Research and Office Park).
4. Safety Compliance Facility only in Overlay Areas 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 on property zoned I (Industrial), C-1, C-2, or C-3 (Commercial) and RP (Research and Office Park).
5. Secure Transporter only in Overlay Areas 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 on property zoned I (Industrial), C-1, C-2, or C-3 (Commercial) and RP (Research and Office Park).

(f) Application and departmental reviews

1. Application. The application for a special use permit shall be submitted to the Director of Community Planning and Development in accordance with Section 86-124.
2. Departmental reviews. The applicant's plan shall be reviewed by the Township Department of Community Planning and Development, the Township EMS/Fire Department, the Township Police Department, the Township Public Works/Engineering Department, the county drain commissioner, and the county road department or the state department of transportation, whichever road agency has jurisdiction over roads in the immediate vicinity, in order to ensure that public utilities, road, and other infrastructure systems are or will be adequate to support the proposed development.

(g) Review process. Upon determination that the application is complete, the Director of Community Planning and Development shall initiate a review process in accordance with Section 86-125 of this chapter, subject to all hearings and other provisions set forth therein, as applicable, except the final decision on the special use permit shall be made by the Township Board.

1. Planning Commission action. The Planning Commission after holding a public hearing shall make a recommendation to the Township Board. In making a recommendation the Planning Commission shall follow the review criteria in Section 86-126 and may recommend conditions in accordance with Section 86-127.
2. Township Board action. Following review of the Planning Commission's recommendation and record, the Township Board may deny, approve, or approve with conditions an application for a special use permit. Prior to making a decision on a special use permit, the Township Board may hold a public hearing on the request. Notice of the public hearing shall be given in the same manner as outlined in Section 86-65.

(h) Amendments. Any amendments to an approved special use permit shall be in accordance with Section 86-129 and subject to the approval of the Township Board.