

Sept. 30, 2022

Dear Mayor Donovan and Member of the City Council,

Since moving here just a few years ago, I have been surprised by several egregious instances of people ignoring zoning and related laws, choosing to outspend or outwait those who object. However, the proposed sand mining and alteration of the river channel at the mouth of our river is beyond the pale.

Which one of these is a step too far: Breaking laws related to sand mining? Trampling sacred Native American grounds? Destroying historic Singapore? Ruining irretrievable dunes? Threatening the water table and the ecosystems of the river and wetlands?

People travel here for a reason, have second homes here for a reason, spend money here for a reason: because we have something very special. Do we choose to protect it or squander it, fouling our own nest?

I urge you to join your fellow citizens, the ones you represent, and take action immediately to stem this assault on the environment, history, and culture and to deter those who surely will see such lawless development as a precedent. It is against public interest to allow a few lawless individuals to destroy our community.

Please step up when EGLE accepts comments for the state permit review. Tell them this development goes against the Tri-Community Master Plan and that we will indeed demand that our law and policies to be adhered to. And follow through until the word goes out that in our towns, we abide by the law.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter which defines our community from here on out. Please read this into your minutes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy Gronbeck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Wendy Gronbeck
99 Fremont St
Box 910
Douglas, MI 49406

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature

Name Mark Randall

Address P.O. Box 428 (residence address is 15 S. Washington)

City, State, ZIP Douglas, MI 49406

The Marina and Sand Mining would
put a big gouge in the Dune land, in the
intent of the Tri-community Master Plan, in
our history—and for what?
and our environment—

DATE: October 1, 2022
TO: Mayor Donovan and City Council Members
FROM: Ronna and Brian Alexander
265 Water Street, Douglas
RE: A Request to Protect and Preserve

To Mayor Donovan and all members of the Douglas City Council:

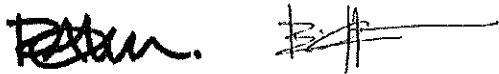
We are writing to you as Douglas residents for the past 25 years, hoping that you will do your part in helping protect The Wild Heart of Saugatuck from the sand mining and development within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth. From our perspective, it is not an advantage to the general population of tourists nor residents of the 3 municipalities and most importantly, the environment. A project of this magnitude risks substantial, negative long term effects of disrupting and removing entire ecosystems that support countless wildlife, land and water habitats, and the historic site of Singapore.

We are asking that during your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: ***The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan. Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.***

This proposed mining and excavation is utterly contrary to the Public Interest as expressed in the Tri-Community Master Plan and we ask that you uphold what is clearly stated within it. We must continue to protect sensitive environments. While the mining would only take place on private land, the negative effects reach into the public lands beyond it. It will increase congestion at the exact point in the river that is already dangerous and while we're sure it is attractive in the way of increased tax revenue for the City, it is at a compromise to other boaters, long term residents and most of all the land and history that it will erase.

We are grateful for your work on this. The earth's environment is already unstable from climate change but luckily, this is one instance where you can clearly help keep sacred lands and the environments around them, intact for local residents, visitors and all of those who come after us.

Best Regards,



Ronna & Brian Alexander & Family

"If anyone has a right to say what happens to these lands, it should be those who have had the longest connection and intimate knowledge of it." - Dr. Nicole Anderson

Anthony S. Pastor
Susan M. Pastor
PO Box 069
Douglas, MI 49406

October 5, 2022

To: Jerome Donovan, Mayor
Cathy North, Mayor Pro Tem
Aaron Miller
Robert Naumann
Neal Seabert
Phil Toepper
Mike Van Loon
Rich LaBombard, City Manager

Dear Douglas City Management Team

You may have heard that last week's **Saugatuck Dunes Coastal Alliance** update meeting at the SCA was informative, energetic, and well-attended. I will add "celebratory", because there is good news about progress against this unconscionable violation of our local environmental integrity.

The proposed sand dune mine, within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is contrary to the public interest as detailed in **the Tri-Community Master Plan, which has been passed and embraced by the government of the City of the Village of Douglas.**

The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand from Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary to add 3,200-feet of waterfrontage to develop a private marina would forever change our river and coastline. It would set a dangerous precedent for permitting other marina developments in the River Mouth Area, potentially including Pine Trail Camp, Ox-Bow School of Art, even Saugatuck's northeast parking lot at Oval Beach.

Please focus on these facts: The proposed sand dune mine and excavation are projected to:

- Erase 6.5 acres of rare Critical Dunes for commercial gain.
- Drain the groundwater beneath the globally imperiled interdunal wetlands on the Patty Birkholz Natural Area.
- Damage the Potawatomi Traditional Cultural Property putting at risk lake sturgeon, burial sites, wild rice, and other Cultural Values.
- Destroy the archaeological and historic site of Singapore.

The proposed marina threatens our local economy and clearly violates local ordinances. It:

- Diminishes and devalues the Tri-Communities' \$20+-million investment in the adjacent Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area, Tallmadge Woods, and the Patty Birkholz Natural Area by introducing inappropriate noise, vibration, fumes, and visual intrusions.
- Undermines the economic vision in our Tri-Community Master Plan – degrading our Parks, Natural Areas, Beaches, Waterways, Shorelines, Wetlands, and Dunes by changing the essential character of the Kalamazoo River Mouth.

Rich LaBombard

From: Rich LaBombard
Sent: Tuesday, October 4, 2022 8:01 AM
To: Pam Alderink
Subject: Fwd: Please protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Belinda Rachman <belindaesq@hotmail.com>
Date: October 3, 2022 at 6:01:57 PM EDT
To: Jerry Donovan <jdonovan@douglasmi.gov>, Cathy North <CNorth@douglasmi.gov>, Aaron Miller <AMiller@douglasmi.gov>, Robert Naumann <RNAumann@douglasmi.gov>, Neal Seabert <NSeabert@douglasmi.gov>, Phil Toepper <ptoepper@douglasmi.gov>, Michael Van Loon <mvanloon@douglasmi.gov>, Rich LaBombard <rlabombard@douglasmi.gov>, glewis@saugatuckcity.com, sdean@saugatuckcity.com, mbekken@saugatuck.com, hleo@saugatuckcity.com, russ@saugatuckcity.com, lstanton@saugatuckcity.com, ktrestor@saugatuckcity.com, ryan@saugatuckcity.com, abigford@saugatucktownship.org, jhelmrch@saugatucktownship.org, saldrich@saugatucktownship.org, bmarcy@saugatucktownship.org, risraels@saugatucktownship.org, ddefranco@saugatucktownship.org
Subject: Please protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck

I own rental property on Goshorn Lake and I live there in the Fall and Spring. I am ASTOUNDED that anyone considering the best interest of our area, tourism, ecology, say nothing of being ok to violate local ordinances etc. would think that removing 250,000 tons of sand in order for a few rich people to park their big boats is a good idea. The danger of some entitled, frat boy crashing their dad's boat and causing a massive oil spill is a very real possibility. We are talking about forever getting rid of 6.5 acres of our beautiful dunes, which draw visitors. The water tables will be lowered which could very well affect Goshorn Lake, which is spring fed. Most residents are NOT ok with the idea of destroying the city of Singapore.

I want all of you who value our beautiful area to take a stand for protecting our environment by passing a resolution stating that this project is contrary to the public interests detailed in the Tri-Community MasterPlan, then submit the approved resolution to AGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

Thank you,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7KGKx1xjh8>

Belinda Rachman, Esq.

Your Peaceful Divorce Expert

Divorce In A Day Mediation

Official Huffington Post blogger

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/belinda-etezad-rachman>

Hello,

The following is a letter that I have copied from another proponent of stopping the development of a marina that would eliminate a good portion of the dunes around the Kalamazoo River as it enters Lake Michigan. The letter says it all and there is no reason I should rewrite it to make it original. Rather, I send it to let you know that another citizen of West MI who greatly enjoys Saugatuck and all that it has to offer is opposed to these drastic changes to our lakes shore and its ecology. Let's stand up protect the nature around us and not give in to monied interests.

I am writing to strongly urge you, as a fellow resident of West Michigan and as an elected official in West Michigan, to protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck by passing a resolution stating the proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.

The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand from Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary to add 3,200-feet of waterfrontage to develop a private marina would forever change the Essential Character of the Wild Heart of Saugatuck. It would set a dangerous precedent for permitting other marina developments in the River Mouth Area, potentially including Pine Trail Camp, Ox-Bow School of Art, even Saugatuck's northeast parking lot at Oval Beach.

The proposed sand dune mine and excavation is projected to:

- Erase 6.5 acres of rare Critical Dunes for commercial gain.
- Drain the groundwater beneath the globally imperiled interdunal wetlands on the Patty Birkholz Natural Area.
- Damage the Potawatomi Traditional Cultural Property putting at risk lake sturgeon, burial sites, wild rice, and other Cultural Values.
- Destroy the archaeological and historic site of Singapore.

The proposed marina threatens our local economy and clearly violates local ordinances. It:

- Diminishes and devalues the Tri-Communities' \$20+-million investment in the adjacent Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area, Tallmadge Woods, and the Patty Birkholz Natural Area by introducing inappropriate noise, vibration, fumes, and visual intrusions.
- Undermines the economic vision in our Tri-Community Master Plan – degrading our Parks, Natural Areas, Beaches, Waterways, Shorelines, Wetlands, and Dunes by changing the essential character of the Kalamazoo River Mouth.
- Adds significant boat traffic to the already-congested River Mouth area.
- Violates Saugatuck Township Code of Ordinances Section 40-910(h) and Section 40-337(c)3 prohibiting excavation to add 3,200-feet of additional waterfrontage within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary.

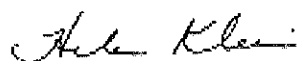
We need your voice – and your actions – to protect and preserve the Wild Heart of Saugatuck.

This fall EGLE will again notice the City of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township to provide comment in the state permit review. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) noticed the City of Saugatuck and Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating:

The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan. Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards,



Helen Klein
1234 Waukazoo Drive
Holland, MI 49424

Rich LaBombard

From: Diane Payne <dianepayne76@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 12:56 PM
To: Jerry Donovan; Cathy North; Aaron Miller; Robert Naumann; Neal Seabert; Phil Toepper; Michael Van Loon; Rich LaBombard; glewis@saugatuckcity.com; sdean@saugatuckcity.com; mbekken@saugatuck.com; hleo@saugatuckcity.com; russ@saugatuckcity.com; lstanton@saugatuckcity.com; ktrestor@saugatuckcity.com; Ryan@saugatuckcity.com; abigford@saugatucktownship.org; jhelmrch@saugatucktownship.org; saldrich@saugatucktownship.org; bmarcy@saugatucktownship.org; risraels@saugatucktownship.org; ddefranco@saugatucktownship.org
Subject: Save the Saugatuck Dunes

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to strongly urge you, as a fellow resident and as my elected official, to protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck by passing a resolution stating the proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.

The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand from Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary to add 3,200-feet of waterfrontage to develop a private marina would forever change the Essential Character of the Wild Heart of Saugatuck. It would set a dangerous precedent for permitting other marina developments in the River Mouth Area, potentially including Pine Trail Camp, Ox-Bow School of Art, even Saugatuck's northeast parking lot at Oval Beach.

I love the Saugatuck Dunes and hope you will do everything in your power to protect this pristine area. So little land along the lake has been preserved and that's tragic.

Best,

Diane Payne
311 West 21st
Holland, MI 49423

Rich LaBombard

From: Rich LaBombard
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 10:32 AM
To: Pam Aalderink
Subject: FW: Comments: Proposed Sand Dune Mine, Excavation, and

From: Tiffany Schriever <tiffany.schriever@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 10:22 AM
To: Jerry Donovan <jdonovan@DouglasMI.gov>; Cathy North <CNorth@DouglasMI.gov>; Aaron Miller <AMiller@DouglasMI.gov>; Robert Naumann <RNAumann@DouglasMI.gov>; Neal Seabert <NSeabert@DouglasMI.gov>; Phil Toepper <ptoepper@DouglasMI.gov>; Michael Van Loon <mvanloon@DouglasMI.gov>; Rich LaBombard <rlabombard@douglasmi.gov>; glewis@saugatuckcity.com; sdean@saugatuckcity.com; hleo@saugatuckcity.com; russ@saugatuckcity.com; lstanton@saugatuckcity.com; ktrestor@saugatuckcity.com; Ryan@saugatuckcity.com; abigford@saugatucktownship.org; jhelmrich@saugatucktownship.org; saldrich@saugatucktownship.org; bmarcy@saugatucktownship.org; risraels@saugatucktownship.org; ddefranco@saugatucktownship.org
Subject: Comments: Proposed Sand Dune Mine, Excavation, and

I am writing to strongly urge you, as a fellow resident and as my elected official, to protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck by passing a resolution stating the proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.

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- Violates Saugatuck Township Code of Ordinances Section 40-910(h) and Section 40-337(c)3 prohibiting excavation to add 3,200-feet of additional waterfrontage within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary.

We need your voice – and your actions – to protect and preserve the Wild Heart of Saugatuck. This fall EGLE will again notice the City of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township to provide comment in the state permit review. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) noticed the City of Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

The Kalamazoo River has had enough! More boats, houses, sewage systems, and construction waste will pollute our river even more. Everything we do on land ends up in the water, including a gem to the World - Lake Michigan. This isn't only about an area of precious sand dune, it is about water security for the Great Lakes.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan. Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards,
your neighbor and constituent,
Tiffany Bloom
2423 Lomond Dr. Kalamazoo, MI 49008

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<https://sites.google.com/view/schrieverlab/home>

## **Rich LaBombard**

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**From:** Marlee Alexander <marleekaymarzipan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 10:49 PM  
**To:** Jerry Donovan; Cathy North; Aaron Miller; Robert Naumann; Neal Seabert; Phil Toepper; Michael Van Loon; Rich LaBombard  
**Cc:** Jennifer Pearson; Garnet Lewis; Ryan Heise; abigford@saugatucktownship.org; ddefranco  
**Subject:** Protect and Preserve (for October meeting)

Good folks of Douglas,

I ask that you protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck by passing a resolution stating the proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is contrary to the public interest as detailed in the tri-community master plan.

Sacred lands and wildlife are gifts and should be treated as such.

Thank you for your time,  
Marlee Alexander

## Rich LaBombard

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**From:** Vicki Rosenberg <vjrosenberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 7:44 PM  
**To:** Jerry Donovan; Cathy North; Aaron Miller; Robert Naumann; Neal Seabert; Phil Toepper; Michael Van Loon; Rich LaBombard  
**Subject:** Urgent Letter re: Protecting our Natural Environment  
**Attachments:** Letter to Elected Officials p 1.pdf; Letter to Elected Officials p 2 - J Bean.pdf

To: City of the Village of Douglas officials

Attached please find my letter with an urgent request to to protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck by passing a resolution stating the proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.

I ask that you read our individual letters at your upcoming meeting to ensure they are included in the minutes and official public record.

Thank you,

Jackie Bean  
143 West St.  
Saugatuck, MI 49453

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature

*Jacqueline W. Bean*

Name

*JACQUELINE BEAN*

Address

*143 WEST*

City, State, ZIP

*SAUGATUCK, MI 49453*

*PLEASE READ THIS LETTER SO IT BECOME A  
PART OF THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORD.  
WE OWN A SECOND HOME HERE BECAUSE  
OF THE ESSENCE OF THE CITY OF SAUGATUCK.  
THE NATURE, DUNES, PEACEFUL SETTING.  
THIS PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT WILL DEEPLY  
HARM THE AREA AND SURROUNDING  
DUNES & LAKE ETORE.*

## Rich LaBombard

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**From:** Rich LaBombard  
**Sent:** Monday, October 3, 2022 8:42 AM  
**To:** Pam Aalderink  
**Subject:** FW: Urgent Letter re: Protecting our Natural Environment  
**Attachments:** Letter to Elected Officials p 1.pdf; Letter to Elected Officials p 1.pdf; Letter to Elected Officials p 2 - V Rosenberg.pdf; Letter to Elected Officials p 2 - E Parach.pdf

**From:** Vicki Rosenberg <vjrosenberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 7:42 PM  
**To:** Jerry Donovan <jdonovan@DouglasMI.gov>; Cathy North <CNorth@DouglasMI.gov>; Aaron Miller <AMiller@DouglasMI.gov>; Robert Naumann <RNAumann@DouglasMI.gov>; Neal Seabert <NSeabert@DouglasMI.gov>; Phil Toepper <ptoepper@DouglasMI.gov>; Michael Van Loon <mvanloon@DouglasMI.gov>; Rich LaBombard <rlabombard@douglasmi.gov>  
**Subject:** Urgent Letter re: Protecting our Natural Environment

To: City of the Village of Douglas officials

Attached please find two letters, one from me and another from my husband re: our urgent request to protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck by passing a resolution stating the proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.

My husband Eddie and I ask that you read our individual letters at your upcoming meeting to ensure they are included in the minutes and official public record.

Thank you,

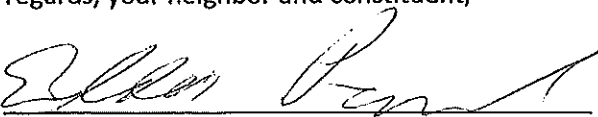
Vicki Rosenberg & Eddie Parach  
445 No. Maple Street, PO Box 116  
Saugatuck, MI 49453

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature



Name

Eddie PARASH

Address

445 NO. <sup>maple</sup> ~~Maple~~ ST.

City, State, ZIP

Saugatuck, MI 49452

Please read my letter at your meeting so it becomes part of the official public record.

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature

Name

Address

City, State, ZIP

Please read This into at your meeting so it becomes part of the official public record.

## Rich LaBombard

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**From:** James Cook <Jim@JamesCook.biz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 9:37 AM  
**To:** Rich LaBombard  
**Subject:** NO to the NorthShore Marina

To our local officials,

It was the natural beauty of the Saugatuck Lakeshore area that drew me here 17 years ago. After more than 30 years in Colorado, I was driven to leave due to overdevelopment and the diminishing amounts of undisturbed territory.

As a photographer, I've found that residents and tourists alike share my love of what we have here. I've been able to consistently sell photographs of the forests, the dunes, and the lake. That confirmation of their appreciation certainly reverberates throughout our local economy.

Singapore is proof that nature can and will heal. But at the very least, in our lifetimes, once it's gone, it's gone. Why inflict avoidable damage?

I am writing to strongly urge you, as a fellow resident and as my elected official, to protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck by passing a resolution stating the proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.

James Cook  
3330 Palmer Drive  
Sauagtuck, MI 49453

[Jim@JamesCook.biz](mailto:Jim@JamesCook.biz)  
720-252-7042

<https://JamesCook.biz>

James Cook  
[Jim@JamesCook.biz](mailto:Jim@JamesCook.biz)  
720-252-7042

<https://JamesCook.biz>



**Rich LaBombard**

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**From:** Kenneth Altman <hilltop415@me.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** Rich LaBombard  
**Subject:** North Shore Development  
**Attachments:** SDCA Letter.pdf

Attached is my letter regarding the destructive development at the river mouth.


Please distribute to City Council.

Thank you for your consideration.

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature 

Name Ken Altman

Address 415 Vine St

City, State, ZIP Saugatuck, MI. 49453

I have been hiking the Saugatuck Dunes for 40 years. The river mouth is one of the few truly natural areas left in West Michigan and our local governments should be doing everything possible to prevent inappropriate development in these areas. The proposed development in North Shore seeks to destroy critical dune areas, destroy Native cultural and historical lands and damage globally imperiled interdunal wetlands. I urge you and the local government to take a stand to protect these valuable natural resources. The Tri-Community Master Plan could not be more clear that these resources are vital to our economy. It is well stated in that plan that should we not protect our wild places then the goose that laid the golden egg will be dead.

## **Rich LaBombard**

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**From:** Will Gervais <wegervais@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 11:22 AM  
**To:** Jerry Donovan; Cathy North; Aaron Miller; maumann@douglasmi.gov; Neal Seabert; Phil Toepper; Michael Van Loon; Rich LaBombard  
**Subject:** Request for a City Resolution  
**Attachments:** SDCA Letter\_20220928\_0001.pdf

I am sending along the attached letter which requests the Douglas City Council to pass a resolution to protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck. Although this is a form letter, it absolutely reflect my personal heartfelt beliefs regarding the proposed North Shore development and its negative impact on our community. It is really important for the city to make a formal statement to the State regulators. No formal statement will be interpreted as if we just don't care what happens to this incredible natural resource.

Respectfully submitted.

---

Will Gervais  
248.568.4068

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature W. E. Gervais

Name WILL GERVAS

Address 484 S. UNION

City, State, ZIP DOUGLAS, MI 49406

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Nancy Plantinga

Name Nancy Plantinga

Address 88 Washington St.

City, State, ZIP Douglas, MI 49406

I am an avid hiker. The dunes of Saugatuck, Cross Nod at Oxbow have become my 2nd home. Nature is my spiritual path. I find God, and peace there.

Destroying this beauty is appalling and cannot be allowed!

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature *Dawn F. Schumann*

Name *DAWN F. SCHUMANN*

Address *296 Lakeshore Dr., P.O. Box 51*

City, State, ZIP *Douglas, MI 49406-5105*

*As an 86 year old who has enjoyed the view of  
the last remaining natural harbor entrance as we  
sailed. We need as much protection as we can  
get.*

*Dawn F. Schumann*

*DS*

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

**During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.**

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature

Name

Address

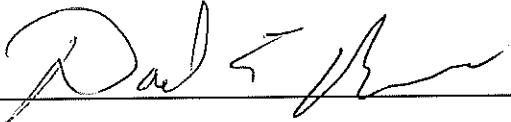
City, State, ZIP

*John C. Hoffmann*  
*John C Hoffmann / Paula Hoffmann*  
*848 Center St*  
*Douglas, MI 49406*

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature 

Name DAVID E. GURDICA

Address 385 FREMONT

City, State, ZIP DOUGLAS, MI 49406

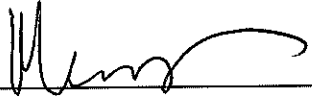
PROTECTING THE RIVER IS IN  
DOUGLAS' BEST INTEREST.



Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

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With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature 

Name MARY LUKENS

Address 385 FREMONT

City, State, ZIP DOUGLAS, MI 49406

Please consider the implications of the land surrounded by public, open spaces being denigrated to benefit a few private land owners. Our natural areas, waterways & beaches are our largest asset as a community, let's keep it that way!

Mary Lukens

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan. Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Robert J. Aardema

Name ROBERT J. AARDEMA

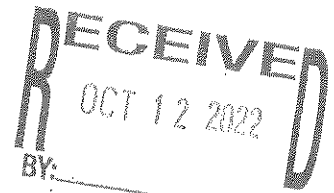
Address 363 N. 2ND ST

City, State, ZIP KALAMAZOO, MI 49009

As a frequent visitor to your community and the Kalamazoo River Harbor, I plead for your opposition to the proposed marina at the mouth of the river.

I am concerned that if allowed, it would establish a precedent that could allow other developers to buy up river frontage properties to dig more canals. Our wonderful (recovering) Kalamazoo <sup>river</sup> would be forever marred & scarred!

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.



During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Curtis J Birky  
Name Curtis J Birky  
Address 7137 114th AVE  
City, State, ZIP Fennville, MI 49408

I regularly visit this natural area for hiking and enjoying the beach. I have spent time there with my family and friends who come from other areas of the State and country. \* Please ~~preserve~~ preserve, for future enjoyment and generations who live in and visit this beautiful area of unique lakeshore area. Thank you,

Curtis Birky

\* While in the community we often stop for something to eat or drink or go to the shops.



Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

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With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature

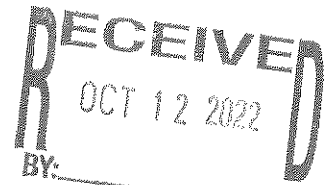
Name

Address

City, State, ZIP

My Family Chooses to Routinely Visit Saugatuck Instead of South Haven, Grand Haven, Holland, or St. Joseph Because of the Natural Features and Wisely Controlled Development. We know many other families in our area who make the same choice for the same reason. KEEP IT WILD! Please read into the minutes at your next Council Meeting.

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.



During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Fran and Mort VanHoue

Name Fran and Mort VanHoue

Address 2378 Lakeshore Dr. (5 driveways south of Saugatuck Township)

City, State, ZIP Fennville, Mi 49408

As carriers of tourists to Saugatuck down the river to experience the river, channel and Lake Michigan and it's coastline, we understand the rare awe, joy, peace experienced by people who see these natural wonders.

Saugatuck, Douglas, the tri communities are characterized in several ways, the most important is the natural surroundings and the peace & tranquility that being in the area brings. The restaurants, shops, real estate businesses, tourist attraction businesses all benefit and in fact survive and thrive because of the conservation of our beauty, natural areas, peaceful outdoor activities and areas to enjoy by hiking, bird watching. Our place is special and shared with visitors who need this type of place.

We are fighting to protect our health in many ways, economic, long term land protection. We the citizens want to protect our place, for now, for the future, for the ecology, rural character. Protect and preserve.

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.



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With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Laura Gudge  
Name Laura Gudge  
Address 6510 Oakwood Lane  
City, State, ZIP Holland MI 49423  
(Laketown Twp).

We live in the southern most portion of Laketown Township, our daughter went through her K-12 education at Saugatuck Public Schools, and we frequently dine and shop in both Saugatuck & Douglas. We hike 2 or 3 times a week at Saugatuck Dunes State Park.

This project is a travesty. The globally unique intertidal wetlands must be protected. You have a chance to protect this unique rivermouth for future generations and the residents of West Michigan.

With best regards, your neighbor,

Signature

Name

Address

City, State, ZIP

*Kathryn Flock*  
*Kathryn Flock*  
*50 E. 30th St.*  
*Holland, MI 49423*



While I am not currently a resident, I have long and deep roots in the Saugatuck area. I worked a number of years at the Presbyterian Camps (wiped out to build mansions at the Lake), my father lived in Saugatuck Township for 35 years before his passing, and I've been running three times a week at the Saugatuck Dunes State Park for the past 13 years. The question I always ask myself is, "What sorts of people look at the wild beauty and sacred landscape of the Kalamazoo River Mouth and say, 'I think I'll dig all this up and build a marina.?' " My answer: those who would put personal monetary gain over the public interest. The healing medicine of this place would disappear forever under the burden of the noise, the fumes, the stagnant water, the degraded wetlands, wrought by building a boat basin, all so a few can run their yachts in and out of Lake Michigan to the detriment of all of the rest of us. You have it in your power:

**Please protect the Wild Heart of Saugatuck!**

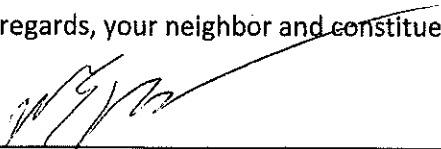
RECEIVED  
OCT 12 2022  
BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

During your October meeting, PLEASE initiate and pass a resolution stating: *The proposed sand dune mine, excavation, and removal of 250,000 tons of sand within Michigan's Critical Dune Boundary at the Kalamazoo River Mouth is Contrary to the Public Interest as detailed in the Tri-Community Master Plan.* Then, submit the approved resolution to EGLE and USACE in compliance with their permit process and reviews.

With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature



Name

William Bardelmeier

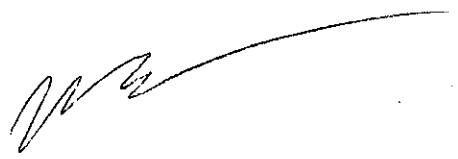
Address

6493 145th Ave

City, State, ZIP

Holland, MI 49423

As a charter boat operator in Saugatuck the destruction of this beautiful area would directly impact my customers experience of the town. I currently get many negative comments on the development as the new houses are being built and disturbing the natural dune.





Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.



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With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Steven N Miller

Name STEVE N MILLER

Address 1540 Pennoyer

City, State, ZIP Grand Haven MI

49517

*Dear Steve*

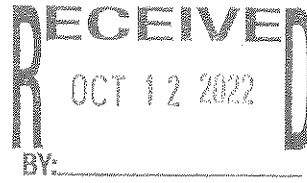
*initiate*

*local officials accountable*

*regional cooperation  
+ permit*

*any future  
will be a  
guarantee  
make*

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.



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With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

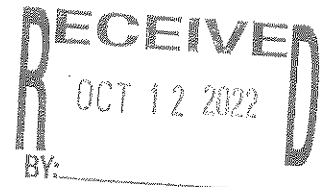
Signature John B. Rossi

Name John B. Rossi

Address 255 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St.

City, State, ZIP Holland, MI 49423

I work out at Ox-Bow School of Art and reside there from May to October. I hike the crows nest trail located in the Tallmudge Woods. The Proposed Marina would impact the view in a negative way. I am also concerned how the de watering will affect our Wetland.



Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.

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With best regards, your neighbor and ~~constituent~~,

Signature Jean Veenema-Birk  
Name JEAN VEENEMA-BIRK

Address 7139 114<sup>th</sup> AVE

City, State, ZIP GLENN (FENVILLE) MI

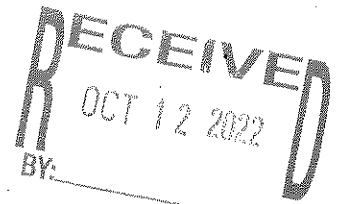
We have utilized, or at least  
a weekly basis, hiking in these areas.

Our children have hiked even more  
frequently. When we have guests from  
other states or countries we have hiked  
with them in these spectacular natural  
wilderness spaces.

We have experienced these places as physically,  
emotionally & psychologically renewing.

As a local psychotherapist I have also often  
recommended these calm & peaceful wilderness places  
as a source of calm & stress reduction. and the protection  
of our local wilderness.

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.



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With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Kathi Minto

Name Kathi Minto

Address 6817 126<sup>th</sup> Ave

City, State, ZIP Fennville, MI 49408

As a former employee of the City of Saugatuck as a beach patroller summertime at Oval Beach, I know how important is to the hundreds of tourists who patronize it. So many commented to me and other patrollers how they love the natural landscape with absence of buildings and development. Comments like, "This is the most beautiful beach I've ever seen." They walked the shoreline from Oval Beach to the riverfront which was then still natural. It means so much to me to keep it natural. I am also a photographer and hike the trails through the Saugatuck Harbor Natural Area to the riverfront capturing nature and appreciating the dunes, birds, interdunal wetlands, and the calm riverfront. I feel sad when I have seen the development going on and am concerned it may be contaminated by greed! Our community must have its distinction as a natural shoreline... so rare!

Saugatuck Township in 2017 and again in 2018.



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With best regards, your neighbor and constituent,

Signature Cathy Casper

Name Cathy Casper

Address 10422 Woodlawn

City, State, ZIP Portage MI 49082

When I climb Mt Baldhead there is a point where you can see forest as far as the eye can see. Please do not put a mining and mariculture between our beach and the State Park. Our natural areas are shrinking daily please act now to preserve the mouth of the Kalamazoo river, for ourselves and our grandchildren. You are our greatest strength in this endeavor. You cannot get this area back once you allow its destruction. Please join us to protect the Saugatuck dunes.

With Deep Sincerity

Cathy Casper