



Redevelopers of The Village
at Grand Traverse Commons



July 21, 2010

Via Email: mcarnegie@house.mi.gov
Chairman Hernandez,
Vice-Chair Miller,
Vice Chair Hoadley
and Members of the Appropriations Committee
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan

RE: Senate Bill 595

Dear Honorable Members of the House:

I would like to express my full support for Senate Bill 595 regarding lifting restrictions on the use of the Grand Traverse Commons parkland property previously owned by the State of Michigan and conveyed to The Charter Township of Garfield in 1993.

The Grand Traverse Commons parkland is an important community asset and provides a unique recreation opportunity to The Village at Grand Traverse Commons and people throughout the region. The Township, community leaders, and other stakeholders have come together over the past several years to express their desire to remove the deed restrictions on the property that limit activities to hiking and cross-country skiing. This bill will allow for best management trail maintenance, and additional non-motorized uses. Many people have been particularly interested in seeing improved trails for responsible mountain biking on this property.

Passage of Senate Bill 595 would allow the stakeholders to better plan for future improvements on the property with accommodations for additional non-motorized uses. And dear to our heart, it will enhance the amenity that is the GT Commons Natural Area, which is a critical complement to the continued redevelopment of The Village at Grand Traverse Commons.

I hope you and your honorable colleagues will approve this bill.

Sincerely,

Raymond R. Minervini II
Member