

# Community Input – Notes from Community Meeting

## Negaunee-Ishpeming Corridor

M-28 Visual Enhancement  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday May 18, 2004

### Vision 2024- We Picture This

1. Revitalized historic cores of cities
  - Houses well maintained throughout the city and the corridor
  - Unique character of communities maintained
  - Restored historic architecture
  - More living space – apartments
  - Renovation of Historic buildings
  - Restored Historic buildings
  - Designated heritage route on business 28
  - Improved structural decay
  - Historic cultural center
  - Stable economy based on traditional services and supplemented with a technology sector
  - Old buildings refurbished with a mining theme for both communities
2. Successful Business
  - Self sustaining local economy
  - Thriving businesses
  - Main street thriving
  - Business and social activities at the Mather Inn
  - Thriving Community
  - All the stores filled
  - More restaurants
  - “White picket fence” business district that makes you want to stay
3. Thematic signage to tie the Community together
  - Attractive signage on Lakeshore Drive directing traffic to downtown, cliffs shaft etc.
  - Creative signage for local attractions
  - Entrance on 3<sup>rd</sup> street to Ishpeming not 2<sup>nd</sup> street
  - Better signage for ski hall, business district and tourist destinations
  - Highlight Marquette as an “All American County”
  - Creative advertisement for the Jackson mine
  - Iron signage and lighting
4. Teal Lake Corridor
  - Prominent visitors center at the water works building
  - Softened road-scape
  - Halt to highway sprawl
  - Five star resort at Teal Lake incorporating Al Quall

- More activities and recreation on teal lake
- 5. Recreation
  - More walk able and bike friendly communities (connected with non-motorized paths)
  - Walking paths
  - Trees and shrubs
  - More use of Al Quall and Teal Lake
  - Canoe, Kayak and bike rental
  - Multi use trail system connecting Negaunee and Ishpeming
  - Tourism recreation in summer and winter
  - Ishpeming to be a tourist destination with kayaking, cross country skiing
  - Hiking and mining exploration (old buildings)
  - Al Quall expanded
  - Walking, bike crossing at Lakeshore drive/US-41 intersection tying downtown to country village and Al Quall recreation area
- 6. Greenery
  - Green trees, flowering plants, attractive signs
  - Remove railroad berm or cover the railroad approaches with hematite – landscape with trees or flowering bushes
  - A grand vista of the 2 communities
  - A clear entrance to both downtowns
  - Full grown trees lining lakeshore, third street and teal lake
  - Attractive buildings and landscaping appealing to tourists
- 7. Infrastructure
  - Stone work – façade of railroad berm using local granite
  - More shared drives
  - Traffic light at third street
  - Close some driveways on 41 where access is available in the rear of buildings
  - Remove guard rails on third street (off 41) Replace with decorative fence and new lights

### Current Conditions/Issues/Visual Invaders

- Pollutive signage
- Inconsistent architecture
- Inconsistent landscaping
- Overhead power lines
- Parking in front of businesses
- Sand, concrete, blight
- Murals
- Uncontrolled signage, lack of continuity, material and size

- Traffic light at 2<sup>nd</sup> street (Should be at 3<sup>rd</sup> street)
- Cars/traffic (study new design for traffic flow)
- Empty store fronts
- Poor planning
- Vacant buildings
- Signage
- Lights
- Garbage (attitude improvement)
- Dilapidated buildings
- Bill Boards
- Guard rail (Lakeshore Drive)

### Roadblocks

- Communication
- People are busy (Pressure from so many directions)
- Continued sprawl
- Fear of investment
- Lack of funds
- Pessimism/Apathy
- Ambiguity about TIF funding/distribution
- Federal highway administration regulations
- DEQ regulations, response time, requirements

### How do we get there?

- Cooperative planning
- Grant seeking committees
- Incentive based programs
- Organize a non-motorized trail (Some volunteer –some non-motorized funds)
- Reactivate the beatification committee – (Garden Club)
- Chamber that serves Ishpeming and Negaunee
- Quarterly Main Street newsletter
- Talk amongst ourselves to get involved and attempt to get more people involved
- Education
- Risk management
- Using technology to promote and enhance our community
- Leveraging existing funds
- Broken window theory (Setting examples)
- Propaganda effort (Thank you – take pride)
- Thematic sign ordinance (Create or review ordinance and enhance)
- Funding (VEP) (Renovate/Restore)
- Marketing, promotion and advertising campaign
- City Council needs to provide leadership with the “Vision”
- Active DDA that has a TIF
- Community support (Revive a sense of Community ownership)
- Inform people about the TODS option for signs