

Bates Township – Crystal Falls City – Crystal Falls Township – Iron River City – Iron River Township

U.S. Highway 2 Visual Enhancement

Planning Team Meeting

Thursday, April 10, 2003

Vision 2020 – We Picture This..

- Grand entrances at both ends of the corridor
- Billboards replaced with holograms
- *Advanced* planned commercial growth planning with an emphasis on the environment
- A concentration on the growth of existing areas rather than creating new ones
- 30' greenbelt with trees beyond the right of way
- Park area along the Iron River waterway
- Enhanced waterways along the entire corridor
- Split Rock enhanced as a 'landmark'
- Improved visual appearance of gravel pits
- Native names on city street/road/direction signs
- Landscaped industrial park with landscaped buffer
- More pleasing architecture and composition/color balance
- Long tracts of publicly owned property acting as a visual buffer
- A reasonable and consistent policy producing an uncluttered landscape
- Retention and protection of historical features
- Consistent zoning along the corridor for continuity
- Protection of viewsheds
- Non-motorized trails/pathways
- No billboards but an expanded TODS program
- Access management policies in place
- Scenic turnouts/roadside parks
- Kiosks with local information
- Native flowers/shrubs
- Helpful attitudes

Current Conditions/Issues

- S-curve and general road conditions
- Unattractive mixed development
 - (lack of zoning) businesses next to residences
- Blight
 - junk cars
 - deteriorated housing and general scrap
- Landscaping
 - not enough trees
 - tall grass
 - lack of maintenance
- Lack of trails and rv accommodations
- Increased commercial development on the west side of the corridor
 - Displacing natural features
- Dangerous, unsafe conditions

- S-curve
 - Surfaces
- Landscaping
 - No buffers around current development
- Garbage
 - Dropped off along the route
- Signage
 - Lots of billboards
- Unsightly
 - Gravel pits
 - Used car lots
 - Cell/radio towers
- Inconsistent zoning
 - Setbacks
 - Greenbelts
 - Enforcement
 - Spot zoning
 - Structures
 - Utilities
 - signage
- Erosion
- Tight intersections 189/ US 2
- 150 neglected historical sites
- No alternative means of travel
- Dead animals
- Poor property upkeep

Narrowing the spots – Our Top 7

- Fix the S-curves
- 189/US 2 intersection
- US 2 – US 41 intersection to the city limits
- 4 Connect Iron River and Crystal Falls with a multi-use pathway
- Buffer all gravel pits
- By the Dollar Store – across from Angeli's Central Market
- Identify specific and scenic historic sites
- Develop a master plan for the entire corridor

Other areas...

- Widen the 189 – US 2 intersection
- Enhance major intersections
- Develop greenbelts and parks
- Develop a ballpark ½ between Crystal Falls and Iron River
- Develop a new factory/industrial park in Bates Township
- Address billboards on the east side of Crystal Falls
- Demolish building on the sw corner of US2 and 189 and the se corner of US 2/Gibb City Road