



Thank you for your interest in joining the Lakes to Land Regional Initiative!

If your community is ready to become a part of the largest collaboration of its kind in the state of Michigan, you will need to:

- **Execute the attached documents**
- **Select two people to represent your community on the Leadership Team**

Please contact us at www.lakestoland.org or 231-933-8400 for further information.

RESOLUTION

AGREEMENT TO PARTNER – COLLABORATIVE MASTER PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

WHEREAS, the quality of life and economic well-being of _____ Township is of paramount concern to the Name of governing body or planning commission; and

WHEREAS, a master plan and implementation strategy, developed with the input of all interests, can serve as a guide for achieving the quality of life and economic well-being goals of our governmental unit; and

WHEREAS, a collaborative master plan and implementation strategy, that provides a guide for the future of our governmental unit as well as for neighboring townships, will serve to identify issues and opportunities that cross township borders and are of mutual concern; and

WHEREAS, a collaborative master plan and implementation strategy can also provide greater focus and unity around shared goals and objectives and create economies of scale for attaining shared goals; and

WHEREAS, a collaborative master plan and implementation strategy can also identify opportunities for potential service sharing and other forms of collaboration that may be cost effective and sustain or improve services within the boundaries of our Township and within the boundaries of the region formed by participating Townships;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT _____ Township proceeds to enter into the Agreement to Partner to develop a collaborative master plan and implementation strategy.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2011.

Signature_____

Printed Name_____ Title_____

Agreement to Partner Collaborative Master Plan and Implementation Strategy

The purpose of this “Agreement to Partner” is to formalize the intent of certain neighboring townships in Manistee County and Benzie County to partner in developing a collaborative master plan and implementation strategy to guide the direction of each township as well as the region formed by the participating townships.

In entering into this Agreement the partners in no way diminish the independent qualities of their respective townships. The partners believe that the quality of life and economic well-being of their individual townships will be enhanced through a collaborative effort that identifies opportunities that cross township boundaries.

This Agreement is a non-binding agreement that commits the partnering townships to work on a best efforts basis to develop a collaborative master plan and implementation strategy that:

- Respects, sustains and nurtures the independent identities, cultures and features of each township that also establishes plans and implementation strategies involving issues and opportunities that cross township borders and are of mutual concern.
- Fully engages all stakeholders in the development of the collaborative master plan and provides equal access to all to join developing the plan and strategy.
- Identifies and quantifies the assets, resources, facilities, and strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for each township and the region formed by the participating townships.
- Contains goals, objectives, roles, responsibilities, schedules and an identification of sources of financial and technical assistance for attaining the strategic goals for the individual townships as well as for the collaboration, including an economic development strategy.
- Will be guided with the assistance of a consultant that specializes in the development of master plans and implementation strategies.
- Will support and make optimal use of existing plans and related documents as well as the capabilities and contributions of locally-based individuals and organizations.

The partners to this Agreement request that the Alliance for Economic Success (AES) assist in developing and administering a request for proposals so that the participating townships can select a qualified consultant to facilitate completion of the plan and strategy. The partners also request that the AES assist in identifying, seeking and securing funding from grant and foundation sources to support the costs of the project, including consultant costs.

We, the undersigned, commit our township as a partner to this Agreement.

Name	Township	Date
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