

## APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY VISIONING SESSION

On November 6, 2003, McKenna Associates, Inc. led members of the Ovid Township community in a Visioning Session as a part of the Master Plan process. Twenty-seven (27) people signed in at the event, although informal head counts indicated that there were between 30 and 35 people present. Attendees represented Township officials, lake residents, farmers, business owners, retirees, long-time residents, and absentee owners. The goal of the session was to learn about what the residents of the Township wanted to preserve for the future and how they wanted to see Ovid Township develop over the next 10 to 20 years. The results were then used to establish the goals and objectives that framed the Future Land Use Plan. By all accounts, it was a very successful session.

After a brief introduction about the Master Plan process to date and the purpose of the Visioning session, the McKenna team presented attendees with a variety of images for them to consider when thinking about the future of the Township. The images included a variety of options for open space, residential, commercial, and industrial developments. With these ideas in mind, the attendees then split into three (3) groups to discuss the following topics:

- Opportunities and Constraints
- Land Use Issues
- Circulation and Infrastructure

After discussing these issues and sharing the results, the attendees were all given stickers - two (2) green and three (3) red. The green were worth two (2) points and represented issues they felt were of primary importance. The red were worth one (1) point and represented issues that they felt were of secondary importance. On their way out for the evening, attendees were asked to place the appropriate dots next to the issues that were most important to them. All of the responses from the group discussion are listed below. They are sorted in order according to the number of points they received with the point total preceding the comment.

### 1. Opportunities & Constraints

- 16     Underground utilities
- 9       Rural character
- 9       Open space  
          Diversity: farms and woods  
          15 acres for one house is wrong
- 7       Bike and walking trails
- 7       Early warning system
- 6       Emergency services

- 6 Rural lifestyle - slower pace
- 4 More recreational opportunities
- 4 Move Lake Dr. behind houses to the east
- 4 Can't use lake if you don't live on the lake – no beach access
- 4 Trees
- 4 Dark skies
- 3 Extend sewers
- 3 Power outages
  - Blackberry Patch wells and phone
- 3 Reliable power
- 2 Open spaces
- 2 Traffic around the lake - frontage road
- 2 Good junk ordinance
- 2 Lights at major intersections - Fenn Rd. and business route 69
- 2 Trailer park regulations
- 1 Dredge channel
- 1 Areas for people to build homes but stay in community
  - 40 acres is too much per unit
- 1 Lakes and open space
- 1 Lower taxes
- Recreation
- Lakeland opportunities
- Two populations in Township
- Relationship between retirees / lake / Township
- Ability to buy 10 acres, 20 acres
- People want country, but do not want isolation
- Nicer to drive on 27 with open space than on Centennial with all houses and driveways
- We need places for children to live and places for people to work
- Lake is saturated for construction
  - “Mad house” on the weekend
- Absentee landowners not having opportunity to have full use of land

- Security force will be needed in future
- Good roads and access to 69
- Wild life
- Preserve cottages
- Boat and water craft traffic and access
- Improve lake roads - Pearl Beach road
- School capacity
- Street access system

## 2. Land Uses

- 11 Village development concept
- 10 Preserve farmland
- 5 Structured recreational park by Lakeland School - nature center
- 5 Waste transfer use
- 5 Allow recycling uses of all types
- 3 Park - location at Fillmore and Central or adjacent to Lakeland School
- 2 Housing should go in northern portion of Township or southern
- 2 To be fair - housing should be distributed throughout Township
- 1 Types of housing - single family only
- 1 Commercial uses on Fenn Road at the interchange
- 1 All composting as a commercial / industrial use
- Large agriculture lots - 20 acres +
- Easier to recycle old homes
- Neighborhood services
- Sign parameters
- Design
- Landscaping
- Near interchange - commercial
- For residential use

- Lot size - 1/4 acre but 1/2 acre more realistic
- Shopping
- Location of commercial - Pearl Road at 27
- Small scale neighborhood stores
- Traditional style and design
- Industrial at Fenn Road
- Preserve farmland
- Houses can't all go along the lakes - wetlands
- Where can we get sewer/water: Kinderhook and Coldwater
- Residential and commercial should go between highway and lake - access, people, continuity, maintain rural character
- Near US 27
- Commercial uses: gas station on the south side of Coldwater city, condo garages / storage, truck stop at the interchange
- Bait shops and convenience stores
- Parks
- As long as you are designating and concentrating on growth areas, you can control growth in one place and drive one mile away and have the open spaces.
- Walking areas
- Little downtowns - take care of everything with one walking trip - between 69 and 27
- Don't compete with Coldwater
- Don't want strip mall - can't compete
- Close to Coldwater - close to services
- Little Saugatuck and Little Petoskey
- Warehousing - clean and good location
- Good tax base comes from industry - access is attractive
- Keep it all in one place to let the few who want open space have the open space
- 69/27 - by the existing development
- Signage: get off site signs organized - distracting and cluttered on corners
- Service centers
- Schools

- Not around the lakes

### 3. Circulation and Infrastructure

- 10 Walking and/or bike trail
- 7 Walking path or trail - other than golf course
- 4 Weed clean-up in waterways
- 1 Centennial Road
- Connection to open space
- Connection to regional system
- Relieve lake road traffic
- Maintain gravel when able
- Pave when necessary
- Lighting at intersections
- Reconfigure business route
- Power system
- Close to infrastructure
- Unified garbage pick-up
- Compost site
- Fenn Road
- Lake Drive
- Central
- Angola Road - 27
- Roads are not an issue
- Most problems are at Centennial and Central or at Fenn and Centennial -lights needed at these places
- No more freeway interchanges
- More sewer capacity
- Roads are in good shape - mostly paved
- Connect Warren Road west to Rose Lake
- Central & 27 is bad intersection

- Central & Centennial is bad intersection
- Rumble strips help
- When there's a problem with roads, the County corrects it
- Taking out stop signs at Miller and Quimby
- Infringing on clear sight triangle