



TO: Local Units of Government, Neighboring County Governments, Tribal Governments,
Public Utility Companies, Railroad Companies, CUPPAD
FROM: Marquette County Planning Commission
RE: Notice of Availability, Marquette County 2040 Master Plan
DATE: May 13, 2021

We are pleased to notify you that the draft [Marquette County 2040 Master Plan](#) is available for public review. The draft 2040 Master Plan is the result of more than two years of work by Marquette County Planning Division staff and the Marquette County Planning Commission. It incorporates feedback from over 3,000 Marquette County residents who responded to the Master Plan Community Survey, the local planning bodies of every municipality in Marquette County, and a diverse array of community stakeholders from both the public and private sectors.

The 2040 Master Plan is the first comprehensive update to the County's master plan since 1982, and its objective is to help local leaders and community members answer the following question: What do we want Marquette County to be like in 2040? As such, the 2040 Master Plan will guide public policy in Marquette County for the next two decades. For planning purposes, the 2040 Master Plan divides Marquette County into four planning regions, each with their own unique characteristics, challenges, and opportunities. The 2040 Master Plan also identifies strategies for each region which, if implemented, will allow Marquette County to achieve vision and goals for 2040 that are identified in the Plan.

After holding a special meeting on April 20, 2021, the Marquette County Planning Commission gave preliminary approval to the 2040 Master Plan. The Marquette County Board of Commissioners voted to release the Master Plan for public review at their May 4, 2021 meeting. A 63-day public review period has now begun, per the requirements of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act. The draft 2040 Master Plan, strategies, and an interactive online data dashboard can be found at www.mqtcoplan.org.

The Marquette County Planning Commission will review all comments received, hold a public hearing at the close of the review period on August 4, 2021, and vote on final approval of the 2040 Master Plan thereafter. The County Planning Division welcomes public feedback. Please submit your written questions and comments to mqtcoplan@gmail.com or to the following mailing address:

County of Marquette
Resource Management and Development - Planning Division
234 W Baraga Ave.
Marquette, MI 49855

Marquette County Leaders,

As promised, Senator McBroom along with Rep. Cambensy will be returning for follow up conversations. The next roundtable will again be at the Marquette Township Hall.

As before, we ask that you send in your agenda items to allow for our reps to better answer your questions. We will of course add to the agenda as needed.

If this is the first time you will be attending, the purpose of these conversations is to let the Community Leaders know what is going on in Lansing and for our reps to hear the needs of your community. We had such a great turnout in March our hope is to build on that success. We really try to keep these sessions to one hour but they sometimes run a little over.

Please send your agenda items asap to: jschwalbach@senate.michigan.gov If you are able to attend, please also rsvp. If anyone makes a request to zoom we can send you that too but we do look forward to meeting in person once again.

Date: June 18, 2021

Where: Marquette Township Hall
1000 Commerce Dr.
Marquette

Time: 12:30-1:30 **(Note this is a time change)**

We look forward to hearing from you to better develop the relationships your community deserves.

Thank You,

Judi Schwalbach
Office of Senator Ed McBroom
906-280-0090
jschwalbach@senate.michigan.gov

April 28, 2021

RECEIVED
5/6/2021

Dear Powell Township & Respective Committee Members,

We have recently moved to the area after finding our "forever home" on County Road KR. My husband is a builder and I am a stay at home mom and Occupational Therapist at the hospital. We are so excited to really put the kind of sweat, love and tears into raising our 3 young children here as we have fallen in love with the Powell Township community and this property.

My heart sank when I heard there was a proposed launch site in our backyard. I'm not exaggerating when I say that. If you stand on our back deck, you will have a direct view of the launch site- it is just down the shoreline from us.

My family is very concerned: **these are the reasons why we DO NOT want a launch site in our backyard:**

- Noise: I am a stay at home mom who homeschools. We are home pretty much all the time. The noise of the launching seems like it would be extremely disruptive. Will the noise scare our dog? Will the noise scare the wonderful wildlife we see daily? Will we have to plan *our day* around the launch schedule?
- Concerned about the number of launches. We have heard multiple numbers and wonder if the number of launches will increase each year. What's to stop them from adding more launches as they see fit once given approval?
- We have heard absolutely nothing...there *has been no informational meetings*, and no one has asked us or others living directly under this site our opinions. As I mentioned, we can see Granot Loma from our deck and bought this property for peace, quiet, and isolation. Seems there's been a lot of secrecy with this proposed launch site, which is highly concerning.
- Will our property values go down and will it be hard if we had to sell our property if we are unhappy with the launch site? Who would want to buy a beautiful tranquil piece of property with a backyard launch site? What kind of financial position is this putting us in for our futures?
- There will be pollution. The kind of pollution you can't control as it will be going up into the air and dropping to the ground and into Lake Superior.
- The rocket launch site in Kodiak, Alaska has 3 different alerts for closures affecting their roadways, waterways, and airways. Does this mean we will have to close 550 every time there is a launch or that boats will have to get off of the lake?
- Will traffic on 550 increase?
- What is the danger if there is an explosion?? If a part of the rocket falls on our property or catches fire to our property, will MAMA be liable?
- Concern for our neighbors who are even closer to the proposed site than we are.

We would like answers to these questions and concerns. We love the community of Powell Township and would hate to have to move. These are real concerns from the real people living here in Powell Township. We trust that we are valued citizens and our opinions matter. Thank you for hearing the voices of my family and prioritizing the safety of my children as and the environment they are growing up in as #1.

Sincerely,



Laura & Andy Richards
130 County Road KR
Marquette, MI 49855