

**Thelma Rider**

10:50 AM  
(9 minutes  
ago)

to me

I am really sorry to have caused you more work by questioning, but for two reasons I think it was important to question. One is that we kicked the can down the road for two years and we will be facing the same situation again without any more knowledge than we have at this time. Frankfort, with Holwerda at the helm, is not going to have any *meaningful* discussion in two years or ten years, she will simply reiterate that she didn't see and proof of what the adversary side is saying, and will replace any employees that doesn't back her up. Meanwhile the "tradition" of ironman, and events of its like and size becomes more embedded into the idyllic picturesque lifestyle of our community.

The second reason I questioned it was because the wording of the issue that seemed to be very important to the citizens of the, twp was left to a couple of board members without that finalized wording being brought back to the board for approval, and the meeting minutes do not reflect if that final wording involved sending a letter to the municipalities at this time, so that they can't use the excuse two years from now that they were not informed of CLT's intentions.

In the future I hope this board will make it a policy that all resolutions that are left to just a couple of board members must be brought back to the board for final approval before it is considered final.

But in soul searching myself, I think the thing that bothers me the most is disappointed feeling of betrayal by the three "aye" votes by board members who formed a coalition for personal reasons, rather than putting the safety and well being of their community's citizens first. With the changes that occurred in the board membership at the last election, I had renewed hope that we had replaced previous members with ones that were above putting their personal agenda above the health and well being of the people they represent. I see I was wrong.

Amy, If I am unable to make it to the next CLT monthly meeting, would you please read this letter at beginning public input for me.

I mentioned at one time that I am getting to the age where I am less stable on my feet, and I do better reading my thoughts rather than trying to organize them and ad lib public input. For the benefit of myself and others like me, I do hope CLT board would consider a podium for people that wish to use one.

Thanks again Amy, may our better angels keep watch over you.

Thelma

February 4, 2025

Joshua Mills, Superintendent  
JoAnn Holwerda, Mayor  
City of Frankfort  
412 Main Street  
Frankfort, MI 49635

cc: Frankfort City Council Members  
Crystal Lake Township Officials  
Chris Trigg, Benzie County Commissioner

**RE: Urgent Request to Reconsider the Placement of the Cell Tower in Bellows Park**

Dear City of Frankfort Officials,

We, residents of Bellows Avenue and surrounding areas, write to you with deep concern regarding the construction of a nearly **200-foot cell tower** in **Bellows Park**, a treasured community space that has served as a public recreational haven for generations. This decision will have **irreversible consequences** on our health, homes, land values, and the character and integrity of **Crystal Lake's shoreline**. We strongly urge you to **reassess this decision** and move the cell tower to a more suitable, non-parkland location.

**Our Concerns and the Impact on Our Community**

**1. Destruction of Scenic Beauty and Property Devaluation**

- Our homes, including many along **Bellows Avenue**, will now be forced to look at a **massive industrial cell tower instead of our lifelong view of beautiful Crystal Lake through the trees**.
- The tower will be **looming over Bellows Park, the beach, and the playground**, significantly altering the natural aesthetic of the area and negatively affecting **residential property values**.

**2. Violation of Public Trust and Parkland Protections**

- **Bellows Park was donated to the City of Frankfort specifically for public recreation**, as confirmed by the **brass memorial plaque** on the property.
- The construction of a **commercial telecommunications tower fundamentally violates the donor's intent** and contradicts the **Public Trust Doctrine**, which mandates that parkland be preserved for public enjoyment.

### 3. Health & Safety Concerns for Children and Families

- The proposed cell tower will be located **just yards away from Bellows Park's playground equipment, swings, and public gathering spaces**, directly exposing children and families to **potential long-term health risks from radiofrequency radiation**.
- **A safer alternative location exists** that would not impose these same health risks on families nor blight Crystal Lake lakeshore.

### 4. Failure to Provide Meaningful Public Input

- A **major land use change of this magnitude**—placing a commercial cell tower on a **public park on Crystal Lake's shoreline**—should have, at the very least, **been subject to a public hearing with notice to affected citizens**.
- **The decision was made without transparency or meaningful public input**, depriving the community of an opportunity to weigh in on the future of its cherished parkland.

### A Reasonable Alternative Exists

We recognize the need for improved cellular service and do not oppose the construction of a cell tower in an appropriate location. **An alternative location was offered nearby—next to a cemetery—that would:**

- **Not be located on land given to the City of Frankfort for preservation as "unbroken wilderness"** for public use as specified in the Bellows' family donation.
- **Not obstruct the stunning Crystal Lake views** enjoyed by Frankfort and Crystal Township residents for generations.
- **Not impose health concerns on park-goers**, as it would be **far from the playground, beach, and public gathering spaces**.

### Our Request to the City of Frankfort

Given the above concerns, we **strongly urge** the City of Frankfort to:

- **Immediately halt construction** of the cell tower in Bellows Park.
- **Reopen discussions with the community** and conduct a proper **public hearing** on the matter.

- **Reevaluate alternative sites**, such as the nearby cemetery location, that would provide the same service improvements **without sacrificing public parkland and scenic shoreline views**.

If you decide to continue, your decision will permanently alter **not only our homes and neighborhood but also one of the most iconic natural landscapes in Frankfort**. Our families and future generations should not have to live under a **looming, radiating, misplaced commercial structure** blighting the unique beauty of Crystal Lake.

We respectfully ask you consider the voices of the residents most affected, as well as the growing numbers of the broader public who are now being made aware of the project and who cherish this special place of “uninterrupted wilderness”. We look forward to your response and hope to work together in finding a reasonable solution that provides improved cell service to the area while preserving all that makes Crystal Lake so special for generations to come.

While we are just one affected family, many others are also impacted and oppose this action.

Sincerely,

*Mercedes Young*  
Mercedes Young

*Joel Young*  
Joel Young

*Timothy Young*  
Timothy Young

*Kathy Young*  
Kathleen Young

*Justus Young*  
Justus Young

*Sam Young*  
Samuel Young

*Whitney Young*  
Whitney Young

*Spencer Young*  
Spencer Young

*Lauren Bohac*  
Lauren Bohac

*William Young*  
William Young

*Chelsea Overton*  
Chelsea Overton

*Lilly Young*  
Lillian Young Piepszowski

*Jake Piepszowski*  
Jacob Piepszowski

*Julia Dunn*  
Julia Young Dunn

*Austin Dunn*  
Austin Dunn

*Chris Young*  
Christopher Young

*Jo Young*  
Georgia Young

*Jim MacKenzie*  
James MacKenzie

*Robin MacKenzie*  
Robin Young MacKenzie

*Josh MacKenzie*

Joshua MacKenzie

*Jake MacKenzie*

Jacob MacKenzie

*Laura MacKenzie*

Laura MacKenzie

*Lake MacKenzie*

Lake MacKenzie

*Tate MacKenzie*

Tate MacKenzie

*Caleb MacKenzie*

Caleb MacKenzie

*Jason Kolehmainen*

Jason Kolehmainen

*Nate MacKenzie*

Nate MacKenzie

*Carson MacKenzie*

Carson MacKenzie

*Merrilee Broder*

Merrilee Young Broder

*Andy Broder*

Andrew Broder

*Jordan Broder*

Jordan Broder

*Matthew Broder*

Matthew Broder

*Daniel Broder*

Daniel Broder

*Christine Koffey*

Christine Koffey

*Dr. John Young*

John Young

*Ann Gates*

Ann Young Yates

*Al Gates*

Albert Yates

*Aerin Gates*

Aerin Yates

*Jared Rice*

Jared Rice

*Sadie Gates*

Sara Yates

*Sarah Cole*

Sarah Young Cole

*Dan Cole*

Daniel Cole

*Frances Cole*

Frances Cole

*Oliver Cole*

Oliver Cole

*Grace Young*

Grace Young

*Arjun Dayal*

Arjun Dayal

*Isabel Young*

Isabel Young

*Jacob Amiri*

Jacob Amiri

*Allison Van Horn*

Allison VanHorn

*Jacob Van Horn*

Jacob VanHorn

*Chelsea MacKenzie*

Chelsea MacKenzie

*Vicky Totten*

Vicky Totten

*Steve Totten*

Steve Totten

*Jill D. Young*

Jill D. Young

*Paul Young*

Paul Young



# Potential DTE Gas Expansion Opportunity

External

Inbox

Search for all messages with label Inbox

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Summarize this email

**Chris Hackbarth** <[christopher.hackbarth@dteenergy.com](mailto:christopher.hackbarth@dteenergy.com)>

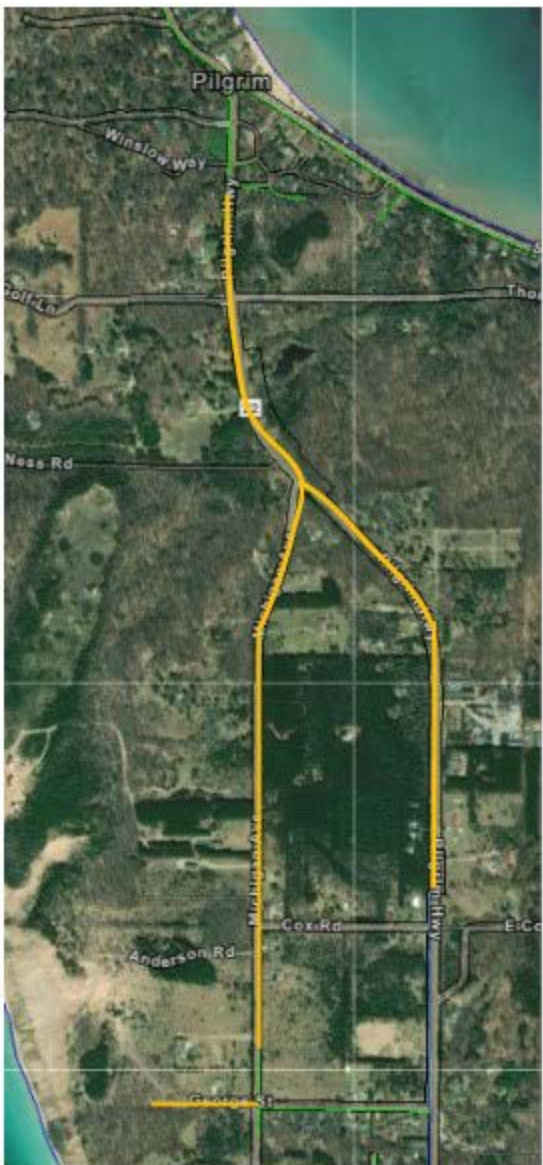
11:19 AM  
Feb 10,  
2025

to me, Katelyn

Good morning! Andy Miller had reached out to us late last year inquiring about the possibility of expanding DTE natural gas service along the remaining length of Michigan Ave within the township. Working with our Community Expansion team, a potential project was developed that could bring service to approximately 45 customers from our current end of main along M-22, just south of Winslow Way (see below), running south to connect currently unserved portions of Michigan Ave, M-22, and George St. We are estimating that the customer connection charge for a project like this would be \$3,739. These customer attachment charges are based on a formula prescribed by the Michigan Public Service Commission and, for residents, can be paid either as a lump sum or in monthly installments (that can be paid off in full at any time without penalty). Based upon the MPSC's connection guidelines, DTE is required to secure interest/participation from a majority of the parcels in a potential project footprint prior to proceeding. Mr. Miller has offered to work with the neighbors in the proposed area to gauge interest in a project like this. Once we receive the necessary feedback from the residents in this area, we will determine if the project can proceed and what the timing might look like. I wanted to reach out briefly to make you aware of this activity and answer any questions you might have. I will keep you updated if the project looks like it will be able to proceed. Please reach out if I can help with anything.

Chris

Chris Hackbarth  
DTE Energy / Regional Manager-Northern Michigan  
Corporate and Government Affairs  
Mobile: 517.974.1476  
Email: [Christopher.Hackbarth@dteenergy.com](mailto:Christopher.Hackbarth@dteenergy.com)



# MMPC Notice- Benzie County

External

**Lydia Gulow** <[lgulow@gtcountymi.gov](mailto:lgulow@gtcountymi.gov)>

10:53 PM  
Feb 10,  
2025

to ajeannot@benzieco.net, cspence@cofrankfort.net, Joshua, joholwerdafcc@gmail.com, benzoniam9981@att.net, Jason, clerk@villageofbeulah.net, pam@villageofbeulah.net, clerk@villageofelberta.com, Clerk@villageofhonor.org, president@villageofhonor.org, lakeannpresident@gmail.com, lakeannclerk@gmail.com, supervisor@almiratownship.org, clerk@almiratownship.org, clerk@benzoniatownship.org, blainetownshipclerk@gmail.com, blainetownshipsupervisor2020@gmail.com, colfaxbenziesupervisor@gmail.com, colfaxbenzieclerk@gmail.com, clerk@tcltbenzie.org, me, cornertoystore@gmail.com, gilmoretwp\_clerk@yahoo.com, supervisor@homesteadtwp.com, clerk@homesteadtwp.com, supervisor@inlandtownship.org, clerk@inlandtownship.org, clerk@laketwp.org, Alison, weldonclerk@acegroup.cc, weldonsupervisor@acegroup.cc

Hello All,

By law I am required to notify you of our regional materials management planning committee (MMPC) meetings that are open to the public.

The next one will take place on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 1PM-3PM at the Grand Traverse County Government Center located at 400 Boardman Ave. Traverse City, MI 49684.

The agenda will be posted at the following link a few days prior to the meeting. (It is available now). [Grand Traverse County - Meeting Information](#)

Let me know if you have any questions, or the Benzie Recycling Coordinator, Dave Schaffer, can answer any questions.

Lydia Gulow  
Resource Recovery Director  
Grand Traverse County  
Hotline: 231-941-5555  
Office: 231-995-6075  
Cell: 231-632-5162  
Email: [lgulow@gtcountymi.gov](mailto:lgulow@gtcountymi.gov)  
Web: [recyclesmart.info](http://recyclesmart.info)

Tax Advisory Committee

External

Inbox

Christina Trigg

Sat, Feb 8, 4:50 PM (19 hours ago)

to me, joholwerdafcc@gmail.com, supervisor@laketwp.org

Hello District 3 Municipal Leaders,

I was asked by Katie Zeits to let you know the county is interested in bringing this committee back into existence. I do not know much about it, other than there was a committee before. Now that the general fund / Headley passed the next steps would be to form this committee. When this was brought up at the last BOC meeting, it seemed some commissioners were trying to remember who was on it before - and were almost trying to reassemble the same team. (I suspect this has to do with trying to find people who will do it.) I would be happy to put a name forward, either yours or someone from your team.

Regards,

Christy Trigg

County Commissioner District 3