

OGEMAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

806 WEST HOUGHTON AVENUE - ROOM 101
WEST BRANCH, MICHIGAN 48661

14 November 2013

Northern Transformation Corporation
2839 South M-76
West Branch MI 48661

RE: *Promise Zone Initiative*

Dear Promise Zone Initiative Committee:

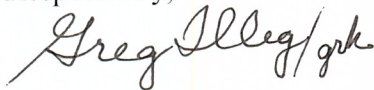
It is with pleasure the Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners supports your organization and its efforts to acquire *Promise Zone* status. The board of commissioners' share in your values, beliefs and goals realizing the well being of its citizens is reflective of the well being of our county and the region.

We understand this designation can create sustainable local businesses, encourage job growth and increase the overall quality of life for our region. This board realizes the importance of promoting the region and its economic assets and natural resources such as its work force, local businesses, rivers, streams, and forests.

We are anxious to partner in a *Promise Zone Initiative* that can provide increased opportunities to assist in the battle against high poverty and low educational attainment while finding additional economic development chances for the citizens of our county. The Skidway Lake area, which is located in southeastern Ogemaw County, has the highest level of poverty (35.6%) in the six county region. This area will become a priority should *Promise Zone* designation become a reality.

If this status is approved, the County of Ogemaw will seek funding for assistance with various programs and services that promote the quality of life for our citizens.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Illig/grk".

Greg Illig, Chairman
Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners

GI/grk

Cc: File