

# Milan Area Concerned Citizens

P. O. Box 22 Milan, MI 48160

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2000

Dear Milan Township Residents,

Happy summer from Milan Area Concerned Citizens (MACC).

The clean up day on June 17<sup>th</sup> brought a lot of stuff out of garages and barns to find a new home. It was good to see so many residents participate this year. Thank you Milan Township!

That same participation was the essential element in the success of the February 22, 2000 Referendum. It is critical to keep the momentum going for future Township endeavors. With so many of the communities surrounding Milan Township challenged by enormous change, it will be imperative that we be ready, as a Community, for the challenges that will soon face us. Now, more than ever before, clear representation and open communication from our leaders will be essential.

Milan Area Concerned Citizens believe Milan Township's future rests upon:

- Promoting fiscal responsibility by not being satisfied with the status quo.
- Open communication with every citizen, and a means to distribute Township information to all in a timely manner.
  - our goal is "PUTTING RESIDENTS FIRST"
- Providing Township business agendas to our Community before public meetings happen so that citizens can be aware of discussion matters and establish questions to present to the Board before board decisions are made.

Why do we believe open government is so important?

After speaking with so many people for the past 18 months, it is clearly apparent that people in Milan Township want their voices heard and respected. They want to feel connected to the Township in which they live and raise their families. This connection can be accomplished by simply listening to people. Respect their concerns, problems and requests. Keep citizens well informed with the facts. Encourage them to stay involved, especially when the situation is difficult.

Open government means interacting with residents.

As we all know, all has been relatively quiet in Milan Township since February 22<sup>nd</sup>. We thought it might be a good time to address some commonly asked questions that have come our way.

***What's going on with the adult entertainment issue?***

The Milan Township Board of Trustees amended the zoning ordinance, as well as, created a new ordinance pertaining to licensing adult entertainment establishments. Both will take effect 30 days after their publication in this week's *Milan News-Leader* (07/12/00). Copies are available through the Township clerk, Emily Bowerman (734 439-1139). The developer, who presented a letter of interest to the Board in early spring, for a permit to remodel the bowling alley into an adult establishment has not proceeded further with any intent.

***Is the proposal for an intermodal development in Milan Township dead?***

It seems highly unlikely. Although the request for rezoning was denied by the Community with the referendum on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the parties have continued their efforts to proceed with the project. Our 'good neighbors' have chosen to ignore the wishes of the majority of Township residents and the democratic process.

On Monday, June 26, 2000, a proposal was submitted to the Monroe County Road Commission for road improvements relating to the proposed center. We are not aware of any other public activity regarding the project since February 2000.

To the best of our knowledge, Ann Arbor Railroad Properties, L.L.C. has not communicated with Township officials regarding their plans to move the project ahead. As of Friday, June 30, 2000, Township Supervisor, John Bruckner stated he was not aware of the plans submitted to the County Road Commission by AAR Properties.

***What about the 100-psi gas line coming into Holnam?***

At the May 2000 monthly Board of Trustee's meeting, the board was asked about a new natural gas line coming into Milan Township. The Board responded at the time that they knew little information about the line, but stated that the line was intended for Holnam and other businesses along Ann Arbor Road.

At the recent July 2000 Board meeting, the gas line proposed for Milan Township was discussed. A 1.4-mile stretch of the line would be entering Milan Township road easements. On the Dundee Township side, we understand from Sharon Jaworski that her private land is being offered to the utility company.

***Did the 425 Agreement between the City of Milan and Milan Township get ironed out?***

Unfortunately for Milan Township, no 425 Agreement was reached between the parties. As a result, the Michigan State Boundary Commission ruled in favor of Milan City's request to annex the 36 areas at the southwest corner of Allen and Crowe. This means no tax revenue sharing for Milan Township.

However, the 80-acre parcel planned for the new Milan High School, is still under negotiation. At issue seems to be responsibility for maintenance of 1500 feet road frontage on Redman Road. Neither the township nor the city has control over maintaining the road due to county jurisdiction. It is time we take the lead role over decisions made for the Township rather than allowing the State Boundary Commission to give our land away.

***What is the significance of the August Primary Election when the election isn't until November?***

All nine of the candidates running for the Milan Township Board are on the democratic ticket. Candidates must win in the August primary election to be on the ballot as Democrats in November. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR VOTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRIMARY.

The primary election will dramatically impact the outcome of the November election, as will any one who might still be interested in running as an Independent, or as a write-in.

***Who are the Milan Township Board candidates that are endorsed by Milan Area Concerned Citizens?***

Daryl Lukasik - Treasurer  
Nancy Pilbeam - Clerk  
Phil Bowerman -Trustee  
Olga Mancik - Trustee

***Why endorse these candidates?***

We back these candidates because of their desire to listen to the residents of Milan Township while promoting open government and sensible growth strategies.

These candidates will encourage and welcome residents voicing their concerns and interests. We believe residents need to be confident that the Board members will carry out the majority 'will of the people', even when it conflicts with a member's own desires.

Respectfully,

Milan Area Concerned Citizens