

The Lower Menominee River: A Great Lakes Area of Concern

October __, 2014

City of Marinette Zoning Commission 1905 Hall Avenue Marinette, WI 54143-1716

Dear ____,

We, the members of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for the Lower Menominee River Area of Concern (AOC) are writing to express our support for the use of City of Marinette zoning to protect natural areas in the AOC. We strongly encourage the City to keep natural areas and corridors and newly restored habitat areas protected via planning and zoning. Community businesses, public agencies, and interested individuals have expended a considerable amount of time, resources, and money on environmental improvements within the Lower Menominee River Area of Concern. Extending and enhancing the legal protections along the banks of the river or adjacent bay shore wherever practicable would go a long way toward ensuring that those areas remain viable ecosystems and as a valued part of the region.

Specifically, we support the following:

- Property north of Menekaunee Harbor should be rezoned P1 Park once it is acquired by the City
- Other properties south and east of Menekaunee Harbor, including the Lake Michigan shoreline, should remain in P1 Park zoning
- City-owned southern shore of South Channel should be considered for re-zoning to C1 Conservation District
- Boom Island should also be considered for re-zoning to C1 Conservation District

The CAC is composed of local concerned citizens, governmental representatives, and industry leaders representing a balanced viewpoint of Marinette, Wisconsin and Menominee, Michigan. We are tasked with assisting resource agencies with removing designated beneficial use impairments (BUIs) in the Lower Menominee River AOC.

If you have any questions please contact Mark Erickson Michigan CAC Co-Chair at 906-863-1954, or Keith West Wisconsin CAC Co-Chair at 715-735-4300 x4352.

Sincerely,

Mark Erickson, Michigan Co-chair

Keith West, Wisconsin Co-chair