

As many people are aware, the DNR has made the decision to cancel plans to mine sand and gravel on two parcels in Genoa Twp. and than reclaim the land for seed orchards.

Today, it was announced that they will no longer be pursuing this option on the lands in question.

We believe this decision was influenced by such factors as:

- Listening to feedback from several hundred attendees at the recent public forum on this subject, held at the Brighton Center for Performing Arts,
- Listening to the hundreds of phone calls from concerned citizens
- Reviewing the professional web site as designed by Ryan Groat of the core team
- Listening to Mike Wilczynski,(senior geologist) analysis of property
- Hearing what the core team had to say during their recent meeting with key individuals from the DNR in Lansing
- Understanding that the business model may not justify the project plan.

In the end, the DNR made the decision that the concerns of the citizens in the area, outweighed the benefits of the proposed project plan.

The core team expresses their thanks for the support provided by hundreds of individuals from multiple neighborhoods in this part of Genoa Township. Their yard signs, phone calls and E mails helped carry the message to the right decision makers.

I cannot name every individual who supported our efforts for fear of forgetting their influence on this process. These individuals know we appreciate their help.

A special thanks goes to Ann Bollin, our Representative in the State House. Ann listened to our concerns and provided valuable feedback on how to present our case to the DNR.

This process has allowed me to meet a lot of individuals who brought wonderful experience to our efforts. Getting to know these individuals demonstrates a key point that we made to the DNR and that being, "Our greatest resources are the citizens of the community. "

Tom Horgan