



Bear Creek Township
373 North Division Road
Petoskey, Michigan 49770
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January 6, 2020

Ms. Regina Gasco Bentley
Tribal Chairperson
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
7500 Odawa Circle
Harbor Springs, MI 49740

Ms. Julie Shananaquet
Tribal Secretary
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
7500 Odawa Circle
Harbor Springs, MI 49740

Re: Retail marijuana establishment on tribal trust property

Dear Ms. Bentley, Ms. Shananaquet, and Tribal Councilors:

The Bear Creek Township Board of Trustees (the "Township") has recently been made aware that the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians ("LTBBOI") is proceeding with the construction and location of what is understood to be a retail marijuana sales establishment on tribal trust property. This property is located at 1345 N US 31 Hwy, Petoskey, MI 49770.

The Township understands this property is held in federal trust for the benefit of the LTBBOI and is therefore exempt from many state and local laws, ordinances, and regulations, although the Township further understands that the sale and distribution of marijuana presently remains illegal as a Schedule I drug under the federal Controlled Substances Act (21 USC 812).

The Township wants the LTBBOI to be aware and understand that the Township opposes the opening of a retail marijuana establishment at this location. This opposition is consistent with the majority of the Township's electors, including tribal members, having voted against the statewide recreational ballot initiative in 2018. It is also consistent with the Township's resolutions and ordinances concerning medical and recreational marijuana establishments within the Township.

This opposition is also consistent with many of the collaborative health, education, safety, and welfare initiatives, including but not limited to the Safe in Northern Michigan campaign in which the LTBBOI has participated.

The Township therefore respectfully requests that the LTBBOI reconsider its support and encouragement of efforts to open up a retail marijuana establishment at this location. If you would ever like to meet with me or any other Township representatives to discuss this important issue, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Dennis Keiser, Supervisor
Bear Creek Township