

PROCLAMATION OF SUPPORT
FOR THE RESIDENTS OF DEXTER-CHELSEA ROAD
NON-MOTORIZED PATHWAY DISPUTE

PROCLAMATION #2017-001

WHEREAS, more than 100 residents of Lima Township who live on Dexter-Chelsea Road, are being affected by the proposed non-motorized pathway,

WHEREAS, the “Boland corridor” in question was obtained by Mr. Boland in fee simple through multiple purchases of land, not through the acquisition of easements of rights-of way, and that many if not all of the instruments by which these property transfers were effected contain a reversion clause stipulating that the land in question would automatically revert to the adjoining land owner if it ceased to be used for railroad purposes for a specified amount of time (e.g. three consecutive years),

WHEREAS, those property owners holding a Warranty Deed or similar instrument of property transfer containing a reversion clause had every reason to believe it to be a valid document, and the document is to have extra merit by being duly recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Washtenaw County,

WHEREAS, the abandonment of all railroad activities on the corridor in question within the stipulated time frame triggered the reversion clauses in the aforementioned instruments, resulting in the automatic transfer of ownership to the adjacent landowners, irrespective of subsequent illegitimate claims,

WHEREAS, the proposed non-motorized pathway crosses in excess of fifty private driveways, two county roads, and two local roads, greatly increasing the probability of collisions leading to increased injuries and death,

WHEREAS, the proposed non-motorized pathway would traverse or be very close to garages, well heads, houses, and would disrupt the lives of these residents, and

WHEREAS, the proposed non-motorized pathway would destroy wetlands, old growth trees and desecrating a local, historical cemetery and run through our already disappearing agricultural lands,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lima Township Board fully supports the residents with property adjacent to the Boland corridor in their dispute with the construction of the non-motorized pathway through their land.

Roll call Board of Trustees: