

January 2, 2008

Stearns County Board of Commissioners

Gentlemen:

This correspondence is provided to acknowledge Avon Townships support for the Counties latest draft of the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Our Township is open and receptive to working with the County in the implementation of a pilot program that would designate the greater Avon Hills area as both a policy and land use area. Over the last five years Avon Township has worked closely with Stearns County Environmental Services, the City of Avon and the Avon Hills Initiative. Our joint efforts are overviewed as follows.

1. Adoption of the Stearns County Land Use Ordinance #209
2. Completion of our Townships growth plan that has been adopted by the County.
3. Reconfiguration of all parcel designations, so as to have constancy with the County zoning map
4. With the partnership of the City of Avon , we have entered into an orderly growth annexation agreement.
5. Formulization of a joint powers board with the City of Avon , initiated to address land use policy decisions within the designated growth area.
6. Implementation of a Township sub division ordinance to address future residential growth outside of the orderly growth annexation area.

We believe these actions are essential in the continuance of the rural character of our township and addressing the future growth needs of our community.

It is important to note, the maintenance of open space is critical not only for biologically sensitive and scenic areas but as important in the preservation of our agricultural land resources. It is vital in the development of future land policies, that growth be sensitive and correctly integrated into the character of the resource.

Our township growth plan plays an integral role in the long term vision of our area. We wish to make certain the county understands the importance we place on our townships growth plan and the significance of properly integrating its vision into the comprehensive plan. We are supportive of your efforts and look forward to the opportunity to work with the City of Avon and our adjacent township neighbor's who are interested in nurturing long term intergovernmental corporation with the County.

Respectfully,
Avon Township Supervisors

CC Environmental Services
City of Avon
Stearns County Planning commission
Avon Hills Initiative