

June 4, 2026

White Lake Township FOIA Coordinator
White Lake Township
7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383

Re: FOIA Request — Supervisor Emails Regarding Proposed Ormond Road Sand and Gravel Mine

Dear FOIA Coordinator,

Pursuant to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.231 et seq., I request copies of emails and email attachments involving White Lake Township Supervisor Rik Kowall that pertain to the proposed sand and gravel mine on Ormond Road in Springfield Township, Michigan.

Date range: January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Please search emails sent to, from, copied to, or blind-copied to Supervisor Rik Kowall, including any Township email account used by Supervisor Kowall to conduct Township business.

This request is limited to emails and email attachments involving Supervisor Rik Kowall that reference or relate to the proposed Ormond Road sand and gravel mine, including communications involving Levy, Burroughs Materials Corporation, Springfield Township, the proposed mining application, or related road, traffic, environmental, planning, or intergovernmental concerns.

Possible search terms include, but are not limited to:

“Ormond Road”
“Sand and Gravel mine”
“gravel mine”
“gravel pit”
“Levy”
“The Levy Group”
“Edw. C. Levy”
“Burroughs”
“Burroughs Materials Corp.”
“Reuben Maxbauer”
“Ric Davis”
“Ormond Road proposal”

I request that responsive records be provided electronically, in whatever electronic format is most convenient for the Township, including PDF, native electronic format, exported email files, or another commonly used format.

If fees are expected to exceed \$50.00, please provide an itemized fee estimate before processing the request.

Thank you.

Kara Okonewski
Oko Environmental LLC
kara@okoenv.com
248-483-0183

Rik Kowall, Supervisor
Anthony L. Noble, Clerk
Mike Roman, Treasurer



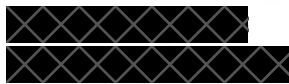
Trustees
Scott Ruggles
Steve Anderson
Andrea C. Voorheis
Liz Fessler Smith

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

7525 Highland Road, White Lake, MI 48383

June 9, 2026

Ms. Kara Okonewski



Email: kara@okoenv.com

Ms. Okonewski,

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") request dated June 4, 2026, attached) which intended to narrow the scope of your original previous requests.

Your request for emails and attachments involving Supervisor Rik Kowall that reference or relate to the proposed Ormond Road sand and gravel mine, as well as the reclassification of Ormond Road, including communications involving Levy, Burroughs Materials Corporation, Springfield Township, Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), the proposed mining application, or related road, traffic, environmental, planning, or intergovernmental concerns has been denied because no records were found.

I have also denied the portion of your request that states "possible search terms include but are not limited to" because there is no way I can guarantee the not limited to portion of that request. The documents must be reasonably identified to be located. A request that does not "reasonably describe" the records sought can be denied as stated in Section **5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(3)(A)** of the federal statute or state equivalents. The basis for this denial is that the description is too vague to allow a professional employee to locate the records with a reasonable amount of effort.

This letter serves as a certificate that your requested document does not exist under the name provided by you or another name reasonably known to the Township. Further, the Township is not required to create a document or a compilation, summary, or report of information to respond to a request. MCL 15.233(4).

As you and I discussed, because of the search, I did find documents related to the Springfield gravel mine that were found due to one or more of the words in the search terms you provided. I have attached those documents at your verbal request.

Rik Kowall, Supervisor
Anthony L. Noble, Clerk
Mike Roman, Treasurer



Trustees
Scott Ruggles
Steve Anderson
Andrea C. Voorheis
Liz Fessler Smith

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

7525 Highland Road, White Lake, MI 48383

The terms used were as outlined in your request; Ormond Road reclassification, Ormond Road, Springfield Township, Road Commission for Oakland County, sand and gravel mine, gravel mine, gravel pit, Levy, Levey, The Levy Group, Edw. C. Levy, Burroughs, Burroughs Materials Corp., and Reuben Maxbauer.

Since part of your request has been denied, you have the right to (1) submit to the head of the public body a written appeal that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for the reversal of the disclosure denial or (2) seek judicial review of the denial, as stated in Section 10 of the Michigan Freedom of Information Act. MCL 15.240 (see attachment).

Further, you have the right to seek attorneys' fees and damages as provided in Section 10 (see attachment) if, after judicial review, the court determines that the Township has not complied with this section and orders disclosure of all or a portion of a public record.

In the event you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to submit a written appeal under MCL 15.240 (see attachment) to the Township, that specifically states the word "appeal" and identifies the reason or reasons for reversal of this response.

The Township's FOIA Procedures and Guidelines and the written FOIA summary can be found at: <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/supervisor/page/freedom-information-act-foia>.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (248) 698-3300 X-150.

Sincerely,

Trish Pergament

Deputy Supervisor and FOIA Officer

Patricia Pergament

From: Kara Okonewski <kara@okoenv.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2026 2:19 PM
To: Patricia Pergament
Subject: FOIA Request - Sand and Gravel Mine Communications, 2025

Caution: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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“Edw. C. Levy”
“Burroughs”
“Burroughs Materials Corp.”
“Reuben Maxbauer”

Patricia Pergament

From: Markel, Carissa <cmarkel@rcoc.org>
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2025 11:45 AM
To: Rick A. Hamill; Bartolotta, Tony; Rik Kowall; Schloss, Shelly; Markee, Kimberly; ddiederi@twp.waterford.mi.us; Philip Joseph Weipert
Subject: 2025 Strategic Planning Meeting Follow-Up
Attachments: 2025 MtgSum Highland Twp.pdf; 2025 MtgSum Waterford.pdf; 2025 MtgSum White Lake.pdf

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us on August 5, 2025. The 2025 Strategic Planning meeting summary for Highland, Waterford, and White Lake Townships are attached. Please let me know if you have any revisions to the summary or long-range strategic transportation priorities.

We appreciate your specific questions and/or requests during the meeting, which may or may not be listed in the meeting summary. RCOC staff will contact you shortly to follow up.

To view a summary of the presentation, including interactive maps and slides from the meeting, please visit the 2025 Strategic Planning StoryMap at: <https://bit.ly/RCOCStrategicPlan2025>. Or scan the QR Code below:



Scan to open on your phone

Thank you,
Carissa Markel, P.E.
Transportation Planning Manager
Road Commission for Oakland County
Phone: (248) 645-2000 ext. 2212
Email: cmarkel@rcoc.org

2025 STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

Township officials expressed concerns about drivers going through the center of the roundabout instead of around the roundabouts at Elizabeth Lake Road and Teggerdine Road and at Elizabeth Lake Road and Oxbow Lake Road. The township requested that RCOC review the possibility of adding features to the center to encourage drivers to use roundabouts properly, similar to the White Lake Road and Rose Center Road roundabout. Also requested discussions about intersection improvements at Pontiac Lake Road and Fisk Road to occur during the 2026 pave gravel project on Pontiac Lake Road, Margie Drive to Kingston Street. RCOC will follow up on both requests.

Township officials discussed new long-range strategic transportation priorities that have been added to the list, including potential roundabouts at White Lake Road and Ormond Road (West and East), resurface on Porter and Round Lake Roads, pave gravel on Grass Lake Road, and pave and improve hill on Porter Road.

LONG-RANGE STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

GENERAL PRIORITIES

1. Improvements and long-term solutions to Union Lake Road and Cooley Lake Road corridors concerning Williams Lake Road & M-5 traffic issues. (RCOC/MDOT)
2. Work with the Township's Civic Center project on Elizabeth Lake Road. (RCOC)
3. Maintenance on Teggerdine Road. (RCOC)

FEDERAL AID ELIGIBLE PRIORITIES

Road Segments:

4. Surface improvement on Elizabeth Lake Road, Oxbow Lake Road to Williams Lake Road. (RCOC, 2.4 miles)
5. Surface improvement on Union Lake Road, Cooley Lake Road to Elizabeth Lake Road. (RCOC, 2.3 miles)
6. Pave Cooley Lake Road, Carey Road to Bogie Lake Road (West). (RCOC, 1.5 miles)
7. Pave Pontiac Lake Road, Kingston Street to Margie Drive. (RCOC, FY26 Pave Gravel, 0.8 miles)
8. Resurface Round Lake Road, Cooley Lake Road to Hutchins Street. (RCOC, 0.8 miles)

Intersections:

9. Intersection review regarding safety concerns and turn lane improvements at Cooley Lake Road (West) and Bogie Lake Road. (RCOC, SS4A Int. Study)
10. Improve safety at Pontiac Lake Road and Fisk Road. (RCOC)
11. Roundabout at Bogie Lake Road and Cedar Island Road (West). (RCOC, SS4A Int. Study).
12. Roundabouts at White Lake Road and Ormond Road (West and East). (RCOC)

NON-FEDERAL AID ELIGIBLE PRIORITIES

Road Segments:

13. Resurface Porter Road, M-59 to Grass Lake Road. (RCOC, 1.1 miles)
14. Pave and improve the hill on Porter Road north of Grass Lake Road for school buses and postal services that are unable to go up or come down. (RCOC)
15. Pave Grass Lake Road, McKeachie Road to Porter Road. (RCOC, 0.5 miles)

Legend: (Road Jurisdiction, SS4A Int. Study = 2025 Intersection Study, Planned Projects, Length)

Patricia Pergament

From: Patricia Pergament
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 11:12 AM
To: Andrea Voorheis; Anthony Noble; Liz Smith; Mike Roman; Rik Kowall; Scott Ruggles; Steve Anderson
Subject: FW: please forward email/PDF flyer
Attachments: Fundraiser Flyer.pdf

Good morning Board,

I was asked by Springfield S.T.E.P to forward this invitation to you all.

Trish Pergament
Deputy Supervisor
White Lake Township
www.whitelaketwp.com

7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
Phn: (248) 698-3300 X-150

Scan to download our new app!



From: Janet Christian <rotron@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 10:58 AM
To: Patricia Pergament <PPergament@whitelaketwp.com>
Subject: please forward email/PDF flyer

Patricia, can you forward the email below including the attached flyer PDF to the full Township Board.
I appreciate your help.

Janet Christian
STEP

From: Communications S.T.E.P. <communications@protectspringfield.org>
Sent: Monday, December 8, 2025 1:19 PM
Subject: Join Us on January 17th!

Neighbors and friends of S.T.E.P.,

S.T.E.P.

Springfield Township Environmental Protectors

Winter Wonder Fundraiser

****An Afternoon of Fun, Community Action, and Updates****

Join Us to Protect our Environment and Oppose the Levy Mine

Details

Date: January 17, 2026

Time: 2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Location: 4-H Fairgrounds Community Room (in fair office building)

Exciting Raffles!

- Basket Raffle – Try your luck to win amazing, themed baskets
 - 50/50 Raffle – Take a chance to win half the cash pot!

Light Lunch Will Be Served!

Let's share a meal as neighbors, receive important updates, and plan for continued community and expert engagement in our important mission.

Reserve Your Tickets Now!

\$35 per person or \$65 per couple

For tickets and more event information, contact:

Stephanie Nahas at 248-318-6873 or stephanie.nahas@protectspringfield.org

Your participation and generosity will make a difference!

Unable to join us? Please consider a tax-deductible donation by year end. We are pedal-to-the-metal to mobilize, engage experts, and protect our community. Your financial assistance is greatly needed and appreciated. Happy Holidays and thank you!

[Donate here at our website](#)

or mail a check to: S.T.E.P. P.O. Box 1, Davisburg, MI 48350

If you'd like to donate a basket (valued at approximately \$50), please contact Stephanie. Imagine fun basket themes like coffee house, pasta night, wine and cheese, lottery tickets, fishing gear, car care, football fan favorites, cozy candles, bath and body care, etc. Just deliver your basket by noon on the 17th to the fairgrounds.

S.T.E.P. Nonprofit 501(c)(3), Springfield Township, MI

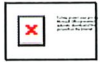
Patricia Pergament

From: Janet Christian <rotron@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 11:42 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: newsletter from STEP (Ormond Rd gravel pit committee)
Attachments: The Sentinel Issue #1 v. 2.pdf

We'd like to introduce you to the first edition of the STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) newsletter.

During the "pause" its more important than ever to try to keep all interested parties up-to-date.

Janet Christian
STEP



Virus-free www.avast.com

THE SENTINEL

Your Watchtower for a Safe, Clean, Peaceful Environment

November 2025 • Issue #1

Alert: Truck Route Details Revealed

The Choice to Impact Rose Township Roads

Do Rose Township officials and residents know that Levy's original preferred truck route DID NOT pass through their township? Do Rose Township residents know that Springfield Township requested a change to the preferred route?

On October 16, 2025, the Township Fact-Finding Committee met for a traffic study review of the proposed truck route. Before we dive into the real dirt (pun intended), here are a few of our overall takeaways from the report:

1. Ormond Road is a Class B roadway (normal load, two-lane asphalt with length/weight restrictions and a 35% spring weight reduction). It is not designed for heavy, loaded gravel trucks. Allowing Class A traffic (full loads) would require upgrading the road to Class A standards, including potential redesigns for the base, geometry, hills, curves, sight distances, and turning radii. The intersection of Ormond and Davisburg Roads may also need improvements, potentially funded by Levy.
2. The scope of these changes is uncertain and could lead to liability for the township if the road's "purpose" changes, affecting homeowners' expectations. (No mention was made of property value impact.)
3. **The proposed route (Ormond north, Davisburg west, Milford south) avoids downtown Davisburg at the request of the "current administration" (more to follow on this point), but enforcement is challenging:** While Levy can provide route instructions upon exit, they can't control incoming trucks or guarantee adherence. Trucks may deviate to unapproved routes, including through downtown Davisburg.
4. Further safety study poses significant concern for bias given the fact that studies will be performed by Fishbeck, Levy's engineer, with review by Giffels Webster, the township planning consultant. There are no plans for an independent, township-funded safety study.

Who is the primary concern – downtown business owners or hundreds of residents along Ormond, Davisburg, and Milford Roads in both Springfield and Rose Township? Let's look at the facts taken directly from the meeting minutes:

1) Reuben Maxbauer [Levy] stated that when this property was first purchased, the logical route was Ormond Road north, Davisburg east, to Dixie Highway. Fishbeck traffic engineers [consultants for Levy] have helped to evaluate many different routes. After engaging with the township for the first time, it was made clear by the current administration that there was a strong desire for the trucks not to go east on Davisburg Road.

2) Chris Todd [resident] asked Supervisor Davis what his reasoning was for not allowing Levy to drive their trucks through downtown Davisburg. Supervisor Davis stated parking in downtown Davisburg is dangerous with cars having to back out of parking spaces and he felt it would have a negative impact on the businesses.

3) Mr. Maxbauer stated that the route they will tell their trucks to take will not be through downtown Davisburg, although he cannot guarantee that a truck won't go through downtown Davisburg. Mr. Sieg [RCOC] stated that legally they are allowed to go through there, it is the understanding that they will avoid that route for the township's sake.

4) Supervisor Davis stated when this application was first received, he asked Mr. Maxbauer to explore the north end of the property, purchasing more property, and utilizing that to build an entrance that can connect straight to Davisburg Road. He asked if this had been explored more. Mr. Maxbauer stated that they haven't found an easy route to do this, but they are open to this possibility.

Are Springfield Township officials already being advised to approve the special land use permit despite significant resident disapproval and potential serious consequences? Let's look at the facts taken directly from the meeting minutes:

Supervisor Davis stated that after talking with Attorney Need, he was told that if the application is denied, the township will have no control. But if the application is approved with conditions there could be agreements between Levy and the township in which the approval could be based on.

We must continue to stand united, and united we will be STRONG!

We urge you to read the complete meeting minutes here:

https://cms1files.revize.com/springfieldtpw/FINAL_Traffic_Study_Review_10-16-25.pdf

Please join us by attending monthly Township Board and Planning Commission meetings and make your voices heard during public comments. The Township Board meets on the second Thursday of each month, and the Planning Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday.

NEXT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 7pm

PLEASE NOTE: TWO PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS RECENTLY RESIGNED.

NEXT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING: Thursday, Dec. 11 at 7pm

[Meeting dates here](#)

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Watch the exciting news report here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRe4agpGxLQ>

The Oxford Mine Tour

More Confusion, More Questions

When it comes to choosing a mining location, Oxford and Springfield Township are worlds apart. On October 4th, members of S.T.E.P. participated in a two-hour tour of Levy's sand and gravel mining operation in Oxford. The mine was unusually quiet and inactive when we arrived on a perfectly sunny day. No earth-moving equipment. No gravel haulers. No extraction by dry mining (the predominant method proposed for Ormond Road). Confused? Yeah, so were we.

Despite being repeatedly told in the past that the state of Michigan cannot meet its demand for aggregate, the Oxford mine was not operating on the day of our tour. Instead, Levy officials hired a few employees to provide us with a basic demonstration of some of the equipment. **When we questioned the mine's closure on a Saturday, we were told that the decision was "demand-driven" and not unusual for the site.** Confused by this apparent contradiction? Yeah, we are, too.

A few other learnings from the tour cemented (no pun intended) critical differences between the Oxford site and the proposed site on Ormond Road. **When Levy purchased the property in Oxford, it was already within a designated "mining overlay district."** This is not surprising since the location is surrounded primarily by commercial properties with easy access to a state highway.

Also, we learned **Levy has little control over the routes that the drivers choose**, and they are not responsible for driver qualifications or certification. This clarification did little to assuage any concerns about roadway safety in our township.

S.T.E.P. members posed several questions that could not be answered by our Levy tour guide. It is our hope that the Township Fact-Finding Committee – formed "to promote open communication, factual investigation, and responsible decision-making" per our supervisor – will fully investigate and provide answers for the good of our township. Let's also hope that the independent experts are still at the table.

Stay Vigilant: Oppose Gravel Mining Bills

Just last year, state legislators introduced bills that would make it easier for aggregate interests to override local governments' ability to deny a mining permit. Lobbyists for the aggregate industry are behind the push to limit local control.

It's important that we communicate with our state legislators and oppose any such legislation, especially given our efforts to protect Springfield Township.

Read more from our fellow Michiganders in Sharon Township:

<https://thesuntimesnews.com/proposed-gravel-mining-legislation-sparks-local-concerns/>

The S.T.E.P. Sentinel never sleeps.

Please forward this report to every neighbor in Springfield and Rose Township

[DONATE HERE TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION TO PROTECT SPRINGFIELD](#) WE THANK YOU!

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

[JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Email us at: [STEP Board@protectspringfield.org](mailto:STEP_Board@protectspringfield.org)

S.T.E.P. Nonprofit 501(c)(3), Springfield Township, MI

Patricia Pergament

From: Janet Christian <rotron@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 11:41 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: RE: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)
Attachments: The Sentinel Issue #1 v. 2.pdf

Thanks for the help, Patricia. I'm sending the PDF to Rik, but could you send it to the rest of the Township Board with this message:

We'd like to introduce you to the first edition of the STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) newsletter.

During the "pause" it's more important than ever to try to keep all interested parties up-to-date.

Janet Christian
STEP

From: Patricia Pergament <PPergament@whitelaketwp.com> **On Behalf Of** Rik Kowall
Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 10:47 AM
To: rotron@comcast.net
Subject: RE: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

You can send it to his direct email at Rkowall@whitelaketwp.com.

Thank you,

Trish Pergament
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Read more from our fellow Michiganders in Sharon Township:

<https://thesuntimesnews.com/proposed-gravel-mining-legislation-sparks-local-concerns/>

The S.T.E.P. Sentinel never sleeps.

Please forward this report to every neighbor in Springfield and Rose Township

[DONATE HERE TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION TO PROTECT SPRINGFIELD](#) WE THANK YOU!

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

[JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Email us at: [STEP Board@protectspringfield.org](mailto:STEP_Board@protectspringfield.org)

S.T.E.P. Nonprofit 501(c)(3), Springfield Township, MI

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 22, 2025 3:06 PM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

I'd like to send you and the full Township Board a PDF of the first edition of the STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) newsletter.

I'm having difficulty figuring out how to attach it in an email using this form.

Can you provide instructions?

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

White Lake Township Board,

A quick note to bring you up to speed on a recent development.

If you go to the Springfield website, Supervisor, then go to Levy Mine Proposal and then Fact Finding Committee, you'll find the Minutes from Traffic Study Review of Oct. 16. Some interesting reading.

<https://cms1files.revize.com/springfieldtwp/FINAL%20Traffic%20Study%20Re...>

You can find minutes from previous Fact Finding meetings as well, but thought you might find this one most interesting..

I recommend you sign up to receive newsletter updates on the mine proposal from Oko Environmental. Kara is formerly a member of STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) but left the committee to form her own LLC. Here's the link to her summary of the Traffic Study

<https://mailchi.mp/6088631a7d69/oko-update-mine-tour-escrow-210?e=134dc1...>

and here's a link to be added to her newsletter distribution at no charge <https://okoenv.com/sign-up-to-stay-informed/>.

As always please feel free to contact me with questions.

Janet Christian
STEP

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 5:59 PM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

White Lake Board,
First the good news!
The Township recently hired Mike Wilczynki, geologist, and Brian O'Mara, environmental consultant as consultants to the gravel pit Fact Finding Committee.
Mike and Brian come highly recommended so we feel there's a very good team in place.

Additionally the Township received a letter of concern from the Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter <https://okoenv.com/documents/2025/09/new-michigan-chapter-of-the-sierra-...>

The discouraging news –
The Township Supervisor recently posted on the Township website comments appearing to discredit S.T.E.P. Those of us on the volunteer committee feel the allegations are not based on fact and are quite discouraging. We hope residents realize our efforts are for the environmental protection and safety of the Springfield community and neighboring communities.

As always, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@unicodeweb.com>
Sent: Friday, August 8, 2025 11:27 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

FYI.

Levy is on the Springfield Township Board agenda for next week's meeting. The STEP committee is concerned; we don't have any information as to the big announcement our Township Supervisor indicated was forthcoming at the meeting.

The Committee will be in attendance.

Janet Christian
STEP Committee

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@unicodeweb.com>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 10:10 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

Here is the link to the July 10 Springfield Board meeting where special counsel Gerald Fisher described the process in evaluating the special land use permit for the gravel mining.

Check for the index point at 00:36:42.

<https://springfieldtwp.viebit.com/watch?hash=3EuTetR7qfM9ORjq>

Janet Christian
STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors)

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:53 PM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Community Alert: Health and Safety Hazard

Tim and Ann Mauro-Vetter (annlovestim@gmail.com) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

Supervisor Kowall:

Our peaceful communities in Springfield Township, White Lake Township, and Rose Township are at risk, and we need your help. For your information, the Edw. C. Levy Company has applied for a "special land use" permit to mine hundreds of acres of pristine, rural property on Ormond Road in Davisburg. We are told there will be 160 gravel trains daily (both loaded and empty) barreling through residential areas and school bus stops in our three townships.

Our schools, as well as hundreds of homes, will be within an unsafe distance of silica dust exposure (a known carcinogen that travels up to 5 miles from a sand and gravel mine). Additionally, the vastly increased diesel exhaust is a major contributor to asthma along with lung and cardiovascular diseases. Sand and gravel mining also negatively impacts area wetlands and water sources. These public health risks are top of mind and should be communicated to your residents.

Beyond the risk of air and water contamination, we trust that you understand the impact of 160 gravel haulers per day (both empty and loaded, weighing up to 230,000 pounds) barreling through our communities. That's one gravel hauler every 4-5 minutes during the proposed daily hours of operation (6am-7pm Monday through Saturday; 6am-8pm during DST). Noise pollution will be significant for any homes/businesses along the truck routes, and our road safety and integrity will be greatly impacted.

The mining company purchased this land in the late 1980s, when many nearby homes did not exist. This is not a safe proposal for our communities, and we would be grateful for your involvement as public servants. Please do all that you can to inform your residents, for it is your duty to your community. One avenue for information is your Township website. Please note the prominent community alert that Rose Township has published on their website:

<https://rosetownship.com/>

Our Springfield Township community Facebook and website links are included below. We thank you, in advance, for your involvement in this critical issue.

Tim & Ann Mauro-Vetter
Springfield Township Precinct Delegates
STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protection) Committee Members

Community website:
ProtectSpringfield.org

Please sign the petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/stop-gravel-pit-development-on-ormond-road>

Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1679440232688813/>

Patricia Pergament

From: lmcshell@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 3:30 PM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: Fw: Burroughs Material (Levy) Mining - Special Land Use - 6651 Ormond Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350

Dear Supervisor Kowall:

I am forwarding the email which I sent today to our township supervisor, Ric Davis. As you may be aware, the residents of Springfield Township have numerous concerns regarding this proposed mining operation in our community. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michelle Goodlaski

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: lmcshell@aol.com <lmcshell@aol.com>
To: supervisor@springfield-twp.us <supervisor@springfield-twp.us>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 03:14:01 PM EDT
Subject: Burroughs Material (Levy) Mining - Special Land Use - 6651 Ormond Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350

Springfield Charter Twp. Supervisor
and Board of Trustees
Springfield Charter Township
12000 Davisburg Road
Davisburg, MI 48350

Dear Supervisor Davis and Members of the Springfield Township Board:

My husband and I live at 7470 Ormond Road in Davisburg. We attended the Planning Commission Meeting held this week and would like to submit an additional concern regarding the proposed mining site.

Our rural landscape throughout Davisburg has country roads which are completely incompatible to accommodate 80 tandem-load gravel haulers on a daily basis from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. six days a week. If you live in the area or have driven through the area, you are well aware of the numerous hills, hidden driveways and curves. We have numerous bus stops (on the very roads upon which the gravel trains would be traveling), rural USPS mail carriers, Fed Ex deliveries, UPS deliveries, Amazon deliveries, garbage collection trucks, etc.. As you know, these vehicles make numerous stops often which involve blocking an entire lane or part of a lane in order to make their deliveries. We have all had to either stop, slow down, move over or wait to safely maneuver these situations. It is absolutely inconceivable to allow these enormous gravel haulers into our community. Our roads are not conducive for this type of daily, frequent interaction.

There are already enough problems of Ormond Road becoming a drag race track with people trying to pass you as you are slowing down (with your left signal on) to turn left into your driveway. Throw 80 gravel haulers into the daily mix who cannot stop on a dime and you are asking for horrible tragedies--at what cost? Twenty years of gravel? Free gravel for Springfield Township?

We live here. These are our lives and our hard earned money which we chose to spend in this beautiful township. We raise our families here. We have pets. We have beautiful properties and live peacefully with our neighbors. We are tax payers. We deserve better than to be sold out to a large multibillion dollar corporation who has blatant disregard for our lives, health, property, families, home values, etc..

We respectfully ask that you listen to the people of Springfield Township and not permit this conglomerate to obliterate our way of life here.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle and David Goodlaski

Patricia Pergament

From: Stephanie Nahas <snananahas7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2025 3:42 PM
To: wylieS@villageofclarkston.org; Rik Kowall; gkullis@hollytownship.org; Amanda Gruzin
Subject: Sand and Gravel mining, Springfield

Good afternoon,

I am contacting you with concerns over the proposed sand and gravel mining pit proposed for Springfield Twp. On Ormond Road between Big Lake and Scott Roads.

As you can imagine the residents are up in arms. Not only with concerns of the pit and the severe consequence but also the truck traffic. The proposed route is to depart the pit going north on Ormond, west on Davisburg Road then south on Milford road. This route goes through Rose Twp. Who stands opposed to this, and Highland Twp.

I can well imagine a different route that may include Clarkston and White Lake. Even if the route does not change there is no designated travel route to arrive at the pit. There are an estimated 80 gravel trains per day. This will create road erosion, air pollution, noise pollution as well as the spread of silica, a known cancer causing toxin with a 5 mile radius.

There will be a planning committee meeting at the township hall tomorrow June 24th at 7:00pm. We invite you to attend to learn more about this devastating proposal.

Respectfully,
Stephanie Nahas
Co-Chair S.T.E.P.
Springfield Township Environmental Protectors
248-318-6873

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 11:28 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

I am part of a newly formed citizen group in Springfield Township to organize opposition to the proposed gravel pit on Ormond Road.

My reason for contacting you is three-fold:

- 1) To encourage you to get more details about the negative impact of the mining on your community
- 2) To encourage you to contact the citizen group/myself with any questions
- 3) To attend the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday the 24th, 7:00 p.m. to encourage the Commission to delay decision-making allowing for more data, independent of that supplied by the applicant, to be collected

I'm going to guess that of the factors that could affect the health, safety and welfare of White Lake residents, you might be most concerned with the spread of silica dust, which we've found can spread up to five miles. Using a simple 5-mile radius circle around the gravel pit site, the dust could travel as far south as Jackson Blvd.

Also take into account the route of the gravel haulers (80 per day = 160 trips, six days a week). It has been suggested Levy intends to take Ormond north to Davisburg Rd, west on Davisburg to Milford. However, if Rose Township blocks that route, the next logical route would be south on Ormond to M59, cutting into White Lake.

We are developing a website which is nearing completion and will provide succinct information in the key areas of concern.

I can forward the link if you are interested.

We also have a Facebook group called "Mining Paradise – Springfield Twp". Citizen input and data are being collected there. Please visit that site to get more information as well.

I'd like to conclude by mentioning we don't believe the Springfield Township Board has looked at all of the options available to oppose the gravel pit as offered by state legislation. This information was offered by an attorney specializing in land use and who represented Metamora and Sharon Township in opposing a pit site in their communities. At the last Township Board meeting the Board surprised us by retaining this lawyer as a consultant. This is a small sign of hope. The citizen group intends to hire its own attorney as well.

Please email or call with any further questions. Your support would be invaluable.

Janet Christian
STEP (Springfield Township Environment Protection)
248-634-8322

Patricia Pergament

From: Rik Kowall
Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 9:51 AM
To: Kelly Lang
Subject: FW: [Rik Kowall] Concern Regarding Springfield Township Gravel Mining Proposal

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 7:52 AM
To: Rik Kowall <RKowall@whitelaketwp.com>
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Concern Regarding Springfield Township Gravel Mining Proposal

KRISTY ROBINETT (kristyrobinett@yahoo.com) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

Dear Mr. Kowall,

Thank you for your ongoing service to our community. I'm writing now with deep concern about a neighboring issue that demands urgent attention.

Springfield Township is currently considering a mining proposal off Ormond Road. If approved, it would allow for at least 80 gravel trucks per day, 6 days a week, to travel through our area—down Davisburg, onto Milford Road, and then to M-59. This isn't just a Springfield issue. This directly affects White Lake Township and every family, road, and small business along that route.

The safety risks are staggering. These trucks will pass several schools and multiple school bus routes, not to mention narrow, winding, low-visibility roads where our children ride bikes and neighbors walk. Beyond safety, there are serious environmental concerns—air quality degradation, watershed contamination that could impact our lakes and wells, road damage, and significant property value decline.

I strongly urge you and the White Lake Township Board to reach out to your counterparts in Springfield and advocate for our shared community. We must not treat township lines as barriers when the impact reaches so far beyond them.

This isn't about blocking development—it's about protecting the health, safety, and peace of the people who already live here. Please don't delay. Time matters.

Thank you for listening and for your stewardship.

Warmly,
Kristy Robinett
Concerned Springfield Township Resident

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 7:52 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Concern Regarding Springfield Township Gravel Mining Proposal

KRISTY ROBINETT (kistryrobinett@yahoo.com) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

Dear Mr. Kowall,

Thank you for your ongoing service to our community. I'm writing now with deep concern about a neighboring issue that demands urgent attention.

Springfield Township is currently considering a mining proposal off Ormond Road. If approved, it would allow for at least 80 gravel trucks per day, 6 days a week, to travel through our area—down Davisburg, onto Milford Road, and then to M-59. This isn't just a Springfield issue. This directly affects White Lake Township and every family, road, and small business along that route.

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I strongly urge you and the White Lake Township Board to reach out to your counterparts in Springfield and advocate for our shared community. We must not treat township lines as barriers when the impact reaches so far beyond them.

This isn't about blocking development—it's about protecting the health, safety, and peace of the people who already live here. Please don't delay. Time matters.

Thank you for listening and for your stewardship.

Warmly,
Kristy Robinett
Concerned Springfield Township Resident

S.T.E.P.

Springfield Township Environmental Protectors

Winter Wonder Fundraiser

****An Afternoon of Fun, Community Action, and Updates****
Join Us to Protect our Environment and Oppose the Levy Mine

Details

Date: January 17, 2026

Time: 2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Location: 4-H Fairgrounds Community Room (in fair office building)

Exciting Raffles!

- Basket Raffle – Try your luck to win amazing, themed baskets
- 50/50 Raffle – Take a chance to win half the cash pot!

Light Lunch Will Be Served!

Let's share a meal as neighbors, receive important updates, and plan for continued community and expert engagement in our important mission.

Reserve Your Tickets Now!

\$35 per person or \$65 per couple

For tickets and more event information, contact:

Stephanie Nahas at 248-318-6873 or stephanie.nahas@protectspringfield.org

Your participation and generosity will make a difference!

Unable to join us? Please consider a tax-deductible donation by year end. We are pedal-to-the-metal to mobilize, engage experts, and protect our community. Your financial assistance is greatly needed and appreciated. Happy Holidays and thank you!

[Donate here at our website](#)

or mail a check to: S.T.E.P. P.O. Box 1, Davisburg, MI 48350

If you'd like to donate a basket (valued at approximately \$50), please contact Stephanie. Imagine fun basket themes like coffee house, pasta night, wine and cheese, lottery tickets, fishing gear, car care, football fan favorites, cozy candles, bath and body care, etc. Just deliver your basket by noon on the 17th to the fairgrounds.

S.T.E.P. Nonprofit 501(c)(3), Springfield Township, MI

Patricia Pergament

From: Patricia Pergament
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 11:12 AM
To: Andrea Voorheis; Anthony Noble; Liz Smith; Mike Roman; Rik Kowall; Scott Ruggles; Steve Anderson
Subject: FW: please forward email/PDF flyer
Attachments: Fundraiser Flyer.pdf

Good morning Board,

I was asked by Springfield S.T.E.P to forward this invitation to you all.

Trish Pergament

Deputy Supervisor
White Lake Township
www.whitelaketwp.com

7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
Phn: (248) 698-3300 X-150

Scan to download our new app!



From: Janet Christian <rotron@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 10:58 AM
To: Patricia Pergament <PPergament@whitelaketwp.com>
Subject: please forward email/PDF flyer

Patricia, can you forward the email below including the attached flyer PDF to the full Township Board.
I appreciate your help.

Janet Christian
STEP

From: Communications S.T.E.P. <communications@protectspringfield.org>
Sent: Monday, December 8, 2025 1:19 PM
Subject: Join Us on January 17th!

Neighbors and friends of S.T.E.P.,

Please see the attached announcement of our next big community event on Saturday, January 17th. We have a fun and informative afternoon planned, and we hope you will join us!

All the best to you and your families this holiday season!

For commUNITY,
S.T.E.P. Committee



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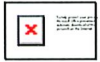
Patricia Pergament

From: Janet Christian <rotron@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 11:42 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: newsletter from STEP (Ormond Rd gravel pit committee)
Attachments: The Sentinel Issue #1 v. 2.pdf

We'd like to introduce you to the first edition of the STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) newsletter.

During the "pause" its more important than ever to try to keep all interested parties up-to-date.

Janet Christian
STEP



Virus-free. www.avast.com

THE SENTINEL

Your Watchtower for a Safe, Clean, Peaceful Environment

November 2025 • Issue #1

Alert: Truck Route Details Revealed

The Choice to Impact Rose Township Roads

Do Rose Township officials and residents know that Levy's original preferred truck route DID NOT pass through their township? Do Rose Township residents know that Springfield Township requested a change to the preferred route?

On October 16, 2025, the Township Fact-Finding Committee met for a traffic study review of the proposed truck route. Before we dive into the real dirt (pun intended), here are a few of our overall takeaways from the report:

1. Ormond Road is a Class B roadway (normal load, two-lane asphalt with length/weight restrictions and a 35% spring weight reduction). It is not designed for heavy, loaded gravel trucks. Allowing Class A traffic (full loads) would require upgrading the road to Class A standards, including potential redesigns for the base, geometry, hills, curves, sight distances, and turning radii. The intersection of Ormond and Davisburg Roads may also need improvements, potentially funded by Levy.
2. The scope of these changes is uncertain and could lead to liability for the township if the road's "purpose" changes, affecting homeowners' expectations. (No mention was made of property value impact.)
3. **The proposed route (Ormond north, Davisburg west, Milford south) avoids downtown Davisburg at the request of the "current administration" (more to follow on this point), but enforcement is challenging:** While Levy can provide route instructions upon exit, they can't control incoming trucks or guarantee adherence. Trucks may deviate to unapproved routes, including through downtown Davisburg.
4. Further safety study poses significant concern for bias given the fact that studies will be performed by Fishbeck, Levy's engineer, with review by Giffels Webster, the township planning consultant. There are no plans for an independent, township-funded safety study.

Who is the primary concern – downtown business owners or hundreds of residents along Ormond, Davisburg, and Milford Roads in both Springfield and Rose Township? Let's look at the facts taken directly from the meeting minutes:

1) Reuben Maxbauer [Levy] stated that when this property was first purchased, the logical route was Ormond Road north, Davisburg east, to Dixie Highway. Fishbeck traffic engineers [consultants for Levy] have helped to evaluate many different routes. After engaging with the township for the first time, it was made clear by the current administration that there was a strong desire for the trucks not to go east on Davisburg Road.

2) Chris Todd [resident] asked Supervisor Davis what his reasoning was for not allowing Levy to drive their trucks through downtown Davisburg. Supervisor Davis stated parking in downtown Davisburg is dangerous with cars having to back out of parking spaces and he felt it would have a negative impact on the businesses.

3) Mr. Maxbauer stated that the route they will tell their trucks to take will not be through downtown Davisburg, although he cannot guarantee that a truck won't go through downtown Davisburg. Mr. Sieg [RCOC] stated that legally they are allowed to go through there, it is the understanding that they will avoid that route for the township's sake.

4) Supervisor Davis stated when this application was first received, he asked Mr. Maxbauer to explore the north end of the property, purchasing more property, and utilizing that to build an entrance that can connect straight to Davisburg Road. He asked if this had been explored more. Mr. Maxbauer stated that they haven't found an easy route to do this, but they are open to this possibility.

Are Springfield Township officials already being advised to approve the special land use permit despite significant resident disapproval and potential serious consequences? Let's look at the facts taken directly from the meeting minutes:

Supervisor Davis stated that after talking with Attorney Need, he was told that if the application is denied, the township will have no control. But if the application is approved with conditions there could be agreements between Levy and the township in which the approval could be based on.

We must continue to stand united, and united we will be STRONG!

We urge you to read the complete meeting minutes here:

[https://cms1files.revize.com/springfieldtwp/FINAL Traffic Study Review 10-16-25.pdf](https://cms1files.revize.com/springfieldtwp/FINAL_Traffic_Study_Review_10-16-25.pdf)

Please join us by attending monthly Township Board and Planning Commission meetings and make your voices heard during public comments. The Township Board meets on the second Thursday of each month, and the Planning Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday.

NEXT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 7pm

PLEASE NOTE: TWO PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS RECENTLY RESIGNED.

NEXT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING: Thursday, Dec. 11 at 7pm

[Meeting dates here](#)

"NOT IN MY BACKYARD!"

Victory for Green Township Farmers and Families!

Never doubt the power of your voice in local decisions! In Green Charter Township, residents triumphed in their relentless pursuit to protect the community from the harmful effects of a massive Chinese EV battery component plant. After a years-long battle with local and state government, "David defeated Goliath." This, too, can be our story in Springfield Township if we stay strong, united, and engaged in our local governance.

Watch the exciting news report here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRe4agpGxLQ>

The Oxford Mine Tour

More Confusion, More Questions

When it comes to choosing a mining location, Oxford and Springfield Township are worlds apart. On October 4th, members of S.T.E.P. participated in a two-hour tour of Levy's sand and gravel mining operation in Oxford. The mine was unusually quiet and inactive when we arrived on a perfectly sunny day. No earth-moving equipment. No gravel haulers. No extraction by dry mining (the predominant method proposed for Ormond Road). Confused? Yeah, so were we.

Despite being repeatedly told in the past that the state of Michigan cannot meet its demand for aggregate, the Oxford mine was not operating on the day of our tour. Instead, Levy officials hired a few employees to provide us with a basic demonstration of some of the equipment. **When we questioned the mine's closure on a Saturday, we were told that the decision was "demand-driven" and not unusual for the site.** Confused by this apparent contradiction? Yeah, we are, too.

A few other learnings from the tour cemented (no pun intended) critical differences between the Oxford site and the proposed site on Ormond Road. **When Levy purchased the property in Oxford, it was already within a designated "mining overlay district."** This is not surprising since the location is surrounded primarily by commercial properties with easy access to a state highway.

Also, we learned **Levy has little control over the routes that the drivers choose**, and they are not responsible for driver qualifications or certification. This clarification did little to assuage any concerns about roadway safety in our township.

S.T.E.P. members posed several questions that could not be answered by our Levy tour guide. It is our hope that the Township Fact-Finding Committee – formed "to promote open communication, factual investigation, and responsible decision-making" per our supervisor – will fully investigate and provide answers for the good of our township. Let's also hope that the independent experts are still at the table.

Stay Vigilant: Oppose Gravel Mining Bills

Just last year, state legislators introduced bills that would make it easier for aggregate interests to override local governments' ability to deny a mining permit. Lobbyists for the aggregate industry are behind the push to limit local control.

It's important that we communicate with our state legislators and oppose any such legislation, especially given our efforts to protect Springfield Township.

Read more from our fellow Michiganders in Sharon Township:

<https://thesuntimesnews.com/proposed-gravel-mining-legislation-sparks-local-concerns/>

The S.T.E.P. Sentinel never sleeps.

Please forward this report to every neighbor in Springfield and Rose Township

[DONATE HERE TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION TO PROTECT SPRINGFIELD](#) WE THANK YOU!

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

[JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Email us at: [STEP Board@protectspringfield.org](mailto:STEP_Board@protectspringfield.org)

S.T.E.P. Nonprofit 501(c)(3), Springfield Township, MI

Patricia Pergament

From: Janet Christian <rotron@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2025 11:41 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: RE: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)
Attachments: The Sentinel Issue #1 v. 2.pdf

Thanks for the help, Patricia. I'm sending the PDF to Rik, but could you send it to the rest of the Township Board with this message:

We'd like to introduce you to the first edition of the STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) newsletter.

During the "pause" it's more important than ever to try to keep all interested parties up-to-date.

Janet Christian
STEP

From: Patricia Pergament <PPergament@whitelaketwp.com> **On Behalf Of** Rik Kowall
Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 10:47 AM
To: rotron@comcast.net
Subject: RE: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

You can send it to his direct email at Rkowall@whitelaketwp.com.

Thank you,

Trish Pergament
Deputy Supervisor
White Lake Township
www.whitelaketwp.com

7525 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48383
Phn: (248) 698-3300 X-150

Scan to download our new app!



From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@unicodeweb.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 22, 2025 3:06 PM

To: Rik Kowall <RKowall@whitelaketwp.com>

Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

I'd like to send you and the full Township Board a PDF of the first edition of the STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) newsletter.

I'm having difficulty figuring out how to attach it in an email using this form.

Can you provide instructions?

▣



Virus-free. www.avast.com

THE SENTINEL

Your Watchtower for a Safe, Clean, Peaceful Environment

November 2025 • Issue #1

Alert: Truck Route Details Revealed

The Choice to Impact Rose Township Roads

Do Rose Township officials and residents know that Levy's original preferred truck route DID NOT pass through their township? Do Rose Township residents know that Springfield Township requested a change to the preferred route?

On October 16, 2025, the Township Fact-Finding Committee met for a traffic study review of the proposed truck route. Before we dive into the real dirt (pun intended), here are a few of our overall takeaways from the report:

1. Ormond Road is a Class B roadway (normal load, two-lane asphalt with length/weight restrictions and a 35% spring weight reduction). It is not designed for heavy, loaded gravel trucks. Allowing Class A traffic (full loads) would require upgrading the road to Class A standards, including potential redesigns for the base, geometry, hills, curves, sight distances, and turning radii. The intersection of Ormond and Davisburg Roads may also need improvements, potentially funded by Levy.
2. The scope of these changes is uncertain and could lead to liability for the township if the road's "purpose" changes, affecting homeowners' expectations. (No mention was made of property value impact.)
3. **The proposed route (Ormond north, Davisburg west, Milford south) avoids downtown Davisburg at the request of the "current administration" (more to follow on this point), but enforcement is challenging:** While Levy can provide route instructions upon exit, they can't control incoming trucks or guarantee adherence. Trucks may deviate to unapproved routes, including through downtown Davisburg.
4. Further safety study poses significant concern for bias given the fact that studies will be performed by Fishbeck, Levy's engineer, with review by Giffels Webster, the township planning consultant. There are no plans for an independent, township-funded safety study.

Who is the primary concern – downtown business owners or hundreds of residents along Ormond, Davisburg, and Milford Roads in both Springfield and Rose Township? Let's look at the facts taken directly from the meeting minutes:

1) Reuben Maxbauer [Levy] stated that when this property was first purchased, the logical route was Ormond Road north, Davisburg east, to Dixie Highway. Fishbeck traffic engineers [consultants for Levy] have helped to evaluate many different routes. After engaging with the township for the first time, it was made clear by the current administration that there was a strong desire for the trucks not to go east on Davisburg Road.

2) Chris Todd [resident] asked Supervisor Davis what his reasoning was for not allowing Levy to drive their trucks through downtown Davisburg. Supervisor Davis stated parking in downtown Davisburg is dangerous with cars having to back out of parking spaces and he felt it would have a negative impact on the businesses.

3) Mr. Maxbauer stated that the route they will tell their trucks to take will not be through downtown Davisburg, although he cannot guarantee that a truck won't go through downtown Davisburg. Mr. Sieg [RCOC] stated that legally they are allowed to go through there, it is the understanding that they will avoid that route for the township's sake.

4) Supervisor Davis stated when this application was first received, he asked Mr. Maxbauer to explore the north end of the property, purchasing more property, and utilizing that to build an entrance that can connect straight to Davisburg Road. He asked if this had been explored more. Mr. Maxbauer stated that they haven't found an easy route to do this, but they are open to this possibility.

Are Springfield Township officials already being advised to approve the special land use permit despite significant resident disapproval and potential serious consequences? Let's look at the facts taken directly from the meeting minutes:

Supervisor Davis stated that after talking with Attorney Need, he was told that if the application is denied, the township will have no control. But if the application is approved with conditions there could be agreements between Levy and the township in which the approval could be based on.

We must continue to stand united, and united we will be STRONG!

We urge you to read the complete meeting minutes here:

https://cms1files.revize.com/springfieldtwp/FINAL_Traffic_Study_Review_10-16-25.pdf

Please join us by attending monthly Township Board and Planning Commission meetings and make your voices heard during public comments. The Township Board meets on the second Thursday of each month, and the Planning Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday.

NEXT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 7pm

PLEASE NOTE: TWO PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS RECENTLY RESIGNED.

NEXT TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING: Thursday, Dec. 11 at 7pm

[Meeting dates here](#)

“NOT IN MY BACKYARD!”

Victory for Green Township Farmers and Families!

Never doubt the power of your voice in local decisions! In Green Charter Township, residents triumphed in their relentless pursuit to protect the community from the harmful effects of a massive Chinese EV battery component plant. After a years-long battle with local and state government, “David defeated Goliath.” This, too, can be our story in Springfield Township if we stay strong, united, and engaged in our local governance.

Watch the exciting news report here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aRe4agpGxLQ>

The Oxford Mine Tour

More Confusion, More Questions

When it comes to choosing a mining location, Oxford and Springfield Township are worlds apart. On October 4th, members of S.T.E.P. participated in a two-hour tour of Levy's sand and gravel mining operation in Oxford. The mine was unusually quiet and inactive when we arrived on a perfectly sunny day. No earth-moving equipment. No gravel haulers. No extraction by dry mining (the predominant method proposed for Ormond Road). Confused? Yeah, so were we.

Despite being repeatedly told in the past that the state of Michigan cannot meet its demand for aggregate, the Oxford mine was not operating on the day of our tour. Instead, Levy officials hired a few employees to provide us with a basic demonstration of some of the equipment. **When we questioned the mine's closure on a Saturday, we were told that the decision was "demand-driven" and not unusual for the site.** Confused by this apparent contradiction? Yeah, we are, too.

A few other learnings from the tour cemented (no pun intended) critical differences between the Oxford site and the proposed site on Ormond Road. **When Levy purchased the property in Oxford, it was already within a designated "mining overlay district."** This is not surprising since the location is surrounded primarily by commercial properties with easy access to a state highway.

Also, we learned **Levy has little control over the routes that the drivers choose**, and they are not responsible for driver qualifications or certification. This clarification did little to assuage any concerns about roadway safety in our township.

S.T.E.P. members posed several questions that could not be answered by our Levy tour guide. It is our hope that the Township Fact-Finding Committee – formed "to promote open communication, factual investigation, and responsible decision-making" per our supervisor – will fully investigate and provide answers for the good of our township. Let's also hope that the independent experts are still at the table.

Stay Vigilant: Oppose Gravel Mining Bills

Just last year, state legislators introduced bills that would make it easier for aggregate interests to override local governments' ability to deny a mining permit. Lobbyists for the aggregate industry are behind the push to limit local control.

It's important that we communicate with our state legislators and oppose any such legislation, especially given our efforts to protect Springfield Township.

Read more from our fellow Michiganders in Sharon Township:

<https://thesuntimesnews.com/proposed-gravel-mining-legislation-sparks-local-concerns/>

The S.T.E.P. Sentinel never sleeps.

Please forward this report to every neighbor in Springfield and Rose Township

[DONATE HERE TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION TO PROTECT SPRINGFIELD](#) WE THANK YOU!

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

[JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

Email us at: [STEP Board@protectspringfield.org](mailto:STEP_Board@protectspringfield.org)

S.T.E.P. Nonprofit 501(c)(3), Springfield Township, MI

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2025 11:56 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

White Lake Township Board,

A quick note to bring you up to speed on a recent development.

If you go to the Springfield website, Supervisor, then go to Levy Mine Proposal and then Fact Finding Committee, you'll find the Minutes from Traffic Study Review of Oct. 16. Some interesting reading.

<https://cms1files.revize.com/springfieldtwp/FINAL%20Traffic%20Study%20Re...>

You can find minutes from previous Fact Finding meetings as well, but thought you might find this one most interesting..

I recommend you sign up to receive newsletter updates on the mine proposal from Oko Environmental. Kara is formerly a member of STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protectors) but left the committee to form her own LLC. Here's the link to her summary of the Traffic Study

<https://mailchi.mp/6088631a7d69/oko-update-mine-tour-escrow-210?e=134dc1...>

and here's a link to be added to her newsletter distribution at no charge <https://okoenv.com/sign-up-to-stay-informed/>.

As always please feel free to contact me with questions.

Janet Christian
STEP

Patricia Pergament

From: lmcshell@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 3:30 PM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: Fw: Burroughs Material (Levy) Mining - Special Land Use - 6651 Ormond Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350

Dear Supervisor Kowall:

I am forwarding the email which I sent today to our township supervisor, Ric Davis. As you may be aware, the residents of Springfield Township have numerous concerns regarding this proposed mining operation in our community. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michelle Goodlaski

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: lmcshell@aol.com <lmcshell@aol.com>
To: supervisor@springfield-twp.us <supervisor@springfield-twp.us>
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 03:14:01 PM EDT
Subject: Burroughs Material (Levy) Mining - Special Land Use - 6651 Ormond Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350

Springfield Charter Twp. Supervisor
and Board of Trustees
Springfield Charter Township
12000 Davisburg Road
Davisburg, MI 48350

Dear Supervisor Davis and Members of the Springfield Township Board:

My husband and I live at 7470 Ormond Road in Davisburg. We attended the Planning Commission Meeting held this week and would like to submit an additional concern regarding the proposed mining site.

Our rural landscape throughout Davisburg has country roads which are completely incompatible to accommodate 80 tandem-load gravel haulers on a daily basis from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. six days a week. If you live in the area or have driven through the area, you are well aware of the numerous hills, hidden driveways and curves. We have numerous bus stops (on the very roads upon which the gravel trains would be traveling), rural USPS mail carriers, Fed Ex deliveries, UPS deliveries, Amazon deliveries, garbage collection trucks, etc.. As you know, these vehicles make numerous stops often which involve blocking an entire lane or part of a lane in order to make their deliveries. We have all had to either stop, slow down, move over or wait to safely maneuver these situations. It is absolutely inconceivable to allow these enormous gravel haulers into our community. Our roads are not conducive for this type of daily, frequent interaction.

There are already enough problems of Ormond Road becoming a drag race track with people trying to pass you as you are slowing down (with your left signal on) to turn left into your driveway. Throw 80 gravel haulers into the daily mix who cannot stop on a dime and you are asking for horrible tragedies--at what cost? Twenty years of gravel? Free gravel for Springfield Township?

We live here. These are our lives and our hard earned money which we chose to spend in this beautiful township. We raise our families here. We have pets. We have beautiful properties and live peacefully with our neighbors. We are tax payers. We deserve better than to be sold out to a large multibillion dollar corporation who has blatant disregard for our lives, health, property, families, home values, etc..

We respectfully ask that you listen to the people of Springfield Township and not permit this conglomerate to obliterate our way of life here.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle and David Goodlaski

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 11:28 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

I am part of a newly formed citizen group in Springfield Township to organize opposition to the proposed gravel pit on Ormond Road.

My reason for contacting you is three-fold:

- 1) To encourage you to get more details about the negative impact of the mining on your community
- 2) To encourage you to contact the citizen group/myself with any questions
- 3) To attend the Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday the 24th, 7:00 p.m. to encourage the Commission to delay decision-making allowing for more data, independent of that supplied by the applicant, to be collected

I'm going to guess that of the factors that could affect the health, safety and welfare of White Lake residents, you might be most concerned with the spread of silica dust, which we've found can spread up to five miles. Using a simple 5-mile radius circle around the gravel pit site, the dust could travel as far south as Jackson Blvd.

Also take into account the route of the gravel haulers (80 per day = 160 trips, six days a week). It has been suggested Levy intends to take Ormond north to Davisburg Rd, west on Davisburg to Milford. However, if Rose Township blocks that route, the next logical route would be south on Ormond to M59, cutting into White Lake.

We are developing a website which is nearing completion and will provide succinct information in the key areas of concern.

I can forward the link if you are interested.

We also have a Facebook group called "Mining Paradise – Springfield Twp". Citizen input and data are being collected there. Please visit that site to get more information as well.

I'd like to conclude by mentioning we don't believe the Springfield Township Board has looked at all of the options available to oppose the gravel pit as offered by state legislation. This information was offered by an attorney specializing in land use and who represented Metamora and Sharon Township in opposing a pit site in their communities. At the last Township Board meeting the Board surprised us by retaining this lawyer as a consultant. This is a small sign of hope. The citizen group intends to hire its own attorney as well.

Please email or call with any further questions. Your support would be invaluable.

Janet Christian
STEP (Springfield Township Environment Protection)
248-634-8322

Patricia Pergament

From: lmcshell@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 3:30 PM
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Please email or call with any further questions. Your support would be invaluable.

Janet Christian
STEP (Springfield Township Environment Protection)
248-634-8322

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:53 PM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Community Alert: Health and Safety Hazard

Tim and Ann Mauro-Vetter (annlovestim@gmail.com) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

Supervisor Kowall:

Our peaceful communities in Springfield Township, White Lake Township, and Rose Township are at risk, and we need your help. For your information, the Edw. C. Levy Company has applied for a "special land use" permit to mine hundreds of acres of pristine, rural property on Ormond Road in Davisburg. We are told there will be 160 gravel trains daily (both loaded and empty) barreling through residential areas and school bus stops in our three townships.

Our schools, as well as hundreds of homes, will be within an unsafe distance of silica dust exposure (a known carcinogen that travels up to 5 miles from a sand and gravel mine). Additionally, the vastly increased diesel exhaust is a major contributor to asthma along with lung and cardiovascular diseases. Sand and gravel mining also negatively impacts area wetlands and water sources. These public health risks are top of mind and should be communicated to your residents.

Beyond the risk of air and water contamination, we trust that you understand the impact of 160 gravel haulers per day (both empty and loaded, weighing up to 230,000 pounds) barreling through our communities. That's one gravel hauler every 4-5 minutes during the proposed daily hours of operation (6am-7pm Monday through Saturday; 6am-8pm during DST). Noise pollution will be significant for any homes/businesses along the truck routes, and our road safety and integrity will be greatly impacted.

The mining company purchased this land in the late 1980s, when many nearby homes did not exist. This is not a safe proposal for our communities, and we would be grateful for your involvement as public servants. Please do all that you can to inform your residents, for it is your duty to your community. One avenue for information is your Township website. Please note the prominent community alert that Rose Township has published on their website:

<https://rosetownship.com/>

Our Springfield Township community Facebook and website links are included below. We thank you, in advance, for your involvement in this critical issue.

Tim & Ann Mauro-Vetter
Springfield Township Precinct Delegates
STEP (Springfield Township Environmental Protection) Committee Members

Community website:
ProtectSpringfield.org

Please sign the petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/stop-gravel-pit-development-on-ormond-road>

Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1679440232688813/>

Patricia Pergament

From: lmcshell@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2025 3:30 PM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: Fw: Burroughs Material (Levy) Mining - Special Land Use - 6651 Ormond Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350

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Sincerely,

Michelle Goodlaski

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Sincerely,

Michelle and David Goodlaski

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Friday, August 8, 2025 11:27 AM
To: Rik Kowall
Subject: [Rik Kowall] Proposed gravel pit on Ormond Rd (Springfield)

Janet Christian (rotron@comcast.net) sent a message using the contact form at <https://www.whitelaketwp.com/>.

FYI.

Levy is on the Springfield Township Board agenda for next week's meeting. The STEP committee is concerned; we don't have any information as to the big announcement our Township Supervisor indicated was forthcoming at the meeting.

The Committee will be in attendance.

Janet Christian
STEP Committee

Patricia Pergament

From: White Lake Township MI <whitelaketownship-mi@municodeweb.com>
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2025 1:53 PM
To: Rik Kowall
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Tim & Ann Mauro-Vetter
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Please sign the petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/stop-gravel-pit-development-on-ormond-road>

Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1679440232688813/>

Rik Kowall, Supervisor
Anthony L. Noble, Clerk
Mike Roman, Treasurer



Trustees
Scott Ruggles
Steve Anderson
Andrea C. Voorheis
Liz Fessler Smith

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP

7525 Highland Road, White Lake, MI 48383

June 24, 2025

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

As Supervisor of White Lake Township, I am writing to express our serious concern regarding the proposed sand and gravel mining project currently under consideration in Springfield Township.

A project of this magnitude raises significant issues—not only for Springfield Township, but also for neighboring communities like White Lake Township. The potential negative impacts on air quality, road conditions, traffic volume, and the overall environment, particularly in northern White Lake Township, are substantial and troubling.

One of the most critical elements of any proposed development is the demonstrated benefit to the broader community. To date, I have not heard a compelling case for how this project would positively serve Springfield Township or its neighbors. On the contrary, the risks and potential harms seem to far outweigh any yet-undefined benefits.

Given these concerns, White Lake Township respectfully urges the Springfield Township Planning Commission to deny approval of this proposed sand and gravel mining operation.

I respectfully ask that this letter be read and entered into the record during your Planning Commission meeting this evening to ensure our position is clearly understood.

Sincerely,

Rik Kowall, Supervisor of White Lake Township