



**VILLAGE OF  
BELLAIRE**

**EST. 1891**

**VILLAGE OF BELLAIRE**

**202 N. BRIDGE STREET  
PO BOX 557  
BELLAIRE, MI 49615**

---

---

## **Economic Vitality Incentive Program**

**Consolidation of Services**

**Prepared December 2012**

**Village of Bellaire, Antrim County**

Plan made available to public on village website and in municipal offices.

### **2011-2012 Consolidation Plan**

#### **1) Parking Agreement between Village of Bellaire and Antrim County**

To augment parking near the downtown core, the Village worked with Antrim County to amend the county's parking ordinance. Previously, the ordinance limited parking in county lots to people who have business with the County. Given that the Antrim County building is adjacent to downtown Bellaire, the Antrim County Commissioners agreed to a revised ordinance that allows general public parking in designated county lots during the peak downtown use hours of evenings, weekends, and holidays.

No barriers were experienced while implementing this agreement.

April 2012 The Village of Bellaire presented a draft of a revised parking ordinance to Antrim County to use as a starting point. The county planning department made changes and sent the Village a copy before taking the ordinance to the commissioners.

May 2012 Antrim County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed the new parking ordinance.

Summer 2012 With the approval of Antrim County, the Village of Bellaire purchased signage noting the new parking hours and installed the signs on existing posts.

#### **2) Rental of Community Hall**

In June of 2011, the Village became sole owner of the Bellaire Community Hall. To compensate for the loss of the maintenance and utility costs once shared with Kearney Township, the village is leasing space to Parkside Arts Council, a 501c(3) organization.

December 2011 The Property & Building Committee met to consider renting the community room to various entities, and whether or not to use the rentals as a possible revenue source. The committee made a motion

to recommend to the village council that the space be rented only to municipalities or non-profit entities at no charge, with the exception of allowing private organizations to apply to the council for a general public event.

January 2012 The Village Council voted to rent the space to municipalities or non-profit entities only at no charge, allowing private organizations to apply to the council for a general public event.

## **2012-2013 Consolidation Plan**

### Proposal for a Land Use Agreement between the Village of Bellaire and Antrim County

A recent survey conducted during the preparation of the village's 2013-2017 Recreation Plan shows a significant desire among village residents for kayaking amenities. Two desired projects are a portaging station around a dam that spans the Intermediate River and the construction of kayak lockers that would enable paddling visitors to secure their crafts and walk to the adjacent downtown area.

This is a project the village is willing to undertake. The site best suited for a portaging station, however, is on property owned by Antrim County.

For the benefit of residents and visitors alike, the Village is willing to cooperate and collaborate with Antrim County on the many details involved in this exciting project, from approaching the Coordinator/Planner's office to appearing before the Antrim County Board of Commissioners.

While there will be no savings realized if this project is completed, it will result in improved recreational opportunities.

Following is an estimated timeline for the project:

- February 2013 The village president will approach Antrim County and discuss the project before the Parks and Lands Committee and the county commissioners.
- April 2013 Approval from both Antrim County and Bellaire's Village Council will be formalized.
- May 2013 Village staff will consult with regional planners and kayaking experts regarding design and placement of the project.
- June 2013 Application to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians will be made for a grant to cover funding of the project.
- August 2013 Award of the tribal grant.
- Fall 2013 Construction of the portaging station and kayak lockers.