

# MASTER PLAN

## WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP

Ingham County, Michigan

Adopted by the Planning Commission  
October 17, 2006

Accepted by the Township Board  
November 14, 2006

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The preparation and cooperation of community leaders and residents in the preparation of the Williamstown Township Master Plan is greatly appreciated. In particular, we acknowledge the efforts of the following individuals:

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# INTRODUCTION

The Williamstown Township Master Plan was completed in 1992, with sections of the Plan being updated in 2000. In 2006, the Plan was reviewed and updated by the Planning Commission. The plan has been developed as a guide for both the development and preservation of Williamstown Township during the next 10 to 20 years. The Master Plan contains analyses and recommendations regarding population, housing, economic development, community and recreation resources, transportation, the future land use pattern, and implementation recommendations.

The planning process provided several opportunities for input and participation of Township residents. A community survey was conducted at the beginning of the Planning Process. The survey was used to guide the ultimate development of the plan, and informed the Planning Commission as to the desires of the populace.

Each component of the Master Plan was prepared in response to the planning issues that were identified and defined through research and analyses as well as through the citizen input process. This careful definition of planning issues gave excellent direction to the planning effort.

The Master Plan builds on the features that residents find most appealing—the Township’s rural character, the open spaces, woodlands, farmlands, meadows, rolling topography, wetlands and streams. The plan is designed to allow development to meet current and future needs, while preserving rural open space, farmlands and environmental quality.

Toward this end, the plan generally concentrates the most intensive development along Grand River Avenue, where there is access to public services and utilities, and where the road system is best developed. The plan calls for agricultural uses and low-density residential development in the northern two-thirds of the Township. The Master Plan sets forth innovative planning concepts, such as Open Space development, that are intended to preserve the rural qualities sought by residents and visitors.

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