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February 23, 2022

Alpena County Board of Commissioners
720 W. Chisholm Street Suite 7
Alpena, MI 49707-2453

Re: Request permission to access parcel and zoning data

Dear Alpena County Board of Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of Huron Pines, a non-profit conservation organization serving the communities of Northeast Michigan with offices in Gaylord and Alpena. We have partnered with the City of Alpena and Alpena Charter Township to create a natural features overlay map for the area. This work is funded by Michigan's Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) Coastal Management Program. This map would be used to identify areas of ecological significance for protection and preservation.

I contacted the County Equalization Department to request landowner parcel-level data for the region, as creating this overlay involves the identification of natural features that often cross property lines, zoning districts and varying land uses. Ted Somers informed me that I would need permissions to use the shapefiles that he has. I would like to request permission to access that private landowner parcel-level data as well as Zoning District data. Data that includes landowner information, PID, legal description, property address, owner mailing address, SEV and taxable data and acreage is appreciated. This information would also be used by our Land Protection Program to increase Huron Pines' efficiency and ability to serve Alpena County and its residents in identifying opportunities for protection of land and water resources.

The natural features overlay created with this information would not serve to replace existing regulations, but inform any supplemental regulations or incentives to further protect significant areas of ecological importance. These supplemental regulations may include protection of trees and vegetation, setback guidance, open space preservation, and protection of areas that have been identified as critical habitat areas and areas where nesting/mating of sensitive species is known.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions,

Respectfully,

Nick Theisen
Water Program Technician
Huron Pines Alpena
989-448-2293 ext. 20