



Alpena County Board of Commissioners
720 W. Chisholm Street, Suite #7
Alpena, MI 49707
Telephone: 989-354-9500
Fax: 989-354-9648
Web Address: www.alpenacounty.org
commissionersoffice@alpenacounty.org



District #8
Chairman of the Board
John Kozlowski

March 6, 2026

District #4
Vice-Chairman
Bill Peterson

Dear Congressman Bergman,

Thank you for considering the Alpena County Courthouse Security Project – Part 1 as one of your designated 2027 Community Funding Projects. While courthouse security has been discussed by previous county boards, our current board is committed to addressing this issue comprehensively—something that will not be possible without approval of this grant request.

District #1
Commissioner
Bill LaHaie

Our courthouse was constructed in 1934 and officially opened in 1935. Since that time, the windows have only been replaced once, sometime in the late 1970s or early 1980s. Many of these windows are now in extremely poor condition, which raises concerns about the structural integrity of the building as well as the safety of the employees, residents, and visitors who conduct business in the courthouse every day.

District #2
Commissioner
Dan Ludlow

Recently, concerns regarding safety and security within the courthouse have also drawn increased attention from the public. In response, the County Board is exploring a three-part plan to address these concerns. The first phase involves replacing the courthouse windows and two exterior doors. The second phase would involve constructing exterior screening areas that will allow for the safe processing of individuals entering the building, helping prevent weapons from being brought inside. The third phase includes the purchase of security equipment such as metal detectors, door buzzers, and other tools necessary to help ensure the safety of everyone inside the building.

District #3
Commissioner
Lucille Bray

District #5
Commissioner
Brenda Fournier

I have completed the application packet provided by your office and included as much information as possible to assist in your review. If you have any questions or require additional materials, please do not hesitate to contact me.

District #6
Commissioner
Todd Britton

Thank you again for your time and consideration. We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to submit this request.

District #7
Commissioner
Travis Konarzewski

Sincerely,

Jennifer Mathis
Deputy County Administrator
Alpena County

County Administrator
Jesse Osmer

REQUEST

1. **Project Title:** Alpena County Courthouse Security Project – Part 1

2. **Project Description (2,000 CHARACTER limit -- *not word limit*):** The Alpena County Courthouse was built in 1934. In current times, we have found a need for security upgrades to be made for the safety of those people who work and utilize it on a regular basis. We have identified various needs which we plan to address in three parts. The first part is to replace our outdated windows, which were last updated in the late 70's/early 80's. We have a number of windows that are "locked" using sticks, that do not close properly, and that need serious repair to properly operate. The second and third parts will include extending a portion of our building to put in a security checkpoint with metal detectors and door buzzers. Our hope is to complete all three phases before 2030. We hope you will consider our request which would help put us on a path to meet our goal to make our courthouse a safer place to visit, work, and conduct business. I am including some photos of the windows in their current conditions as well as renderings of the planned replacement.

3. **Estimated Start Date (month/day/year):** June 1, 2027

4. **Estimated End Date (month/day/year):** September 30, 2027

REQUEST INFORMATION

5. **Amount Requested for FY27:** \$526,829.00

6. **Total Project Cost:** \$526,828.88

7. **FY27 President's Budget Request Amount (If not included in the budget request, write 0):** 0

8. FY26 Enacted Amount (if not enacted, write 0): 0

9. Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? (YES/NO): Yes

10. Request Submitted to another subcommittee this fiscal year? (YES/NO): No

11. Did you submit this request to one or both of your Senators? We intend to submit the request with Senator Slotkin (they're deadline is March 31)

PROJECT/RECIPIENT INFORMATION

12. Is the funding requested by a governmental or non-profit organization? (choose: government/ nonprofit/ other): Governmental

13. Recipient Point of Contact (This cannot be a lobbyist; this must be an individual employed by the grantee who will serve as a point of contact for the funding agency): Jennifer Mathis, Deputy County Administrator for the County of Alpena

14. Recipient Phone Number: (989) 354-9500

15. Recipient Email Address: mathisj@alpenacounty.org

16. In which congressional district(s) is the recipient located? MI-01

17. Recipient Legal Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip:

Jennifer Mathis
720 W. Chisholm Street, Ste. #7
Alpena, Michigan 49707

18. Project Legal Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip

Alpena County Courthouse Security Project – Part 1
720 W. Chisholm Street
Alpena, MI 49707

19. If Project is not located in MI-1, please identify congressional district: n/a

DISCLOSURE AND TRANSPARENCY

20. Project Information URL (Please provide a URL link to the webpage containing project information. This must be an external URL such as <http://example.com>):

n/a

21. Request Explanation (Explanation of the request must include purpose and why it is a valuable use of taxpayer funds) (2-3 SENTENCES): Taxpayers utilize the courthouse where we house our County Clerk, Treasurer, Register of Deeds, Equalization Department, Commissioners Office, County Administrators Office, IT, and the 26th Circuit Court. Using taxpayer dollars to ensure that a building so many utilize and conduct business in is a great investment in their safety. Without this grant, we will not be able to complete this project.

22. Will any of the requested funding be directed to a for-profit entity? NOTE: The House Committee on Appropriations is imposing a ban on directing Community Project Funding to for-profit entities. No

23. Will any of the requested funding be directed to a non-profit organization? If so, please supply the Employer Identification Number or an IRS determination letter.

No

PLANNING, RENDERINGS, & QUOTE FOR PROJECT

PARKING LOT SIDE

RO: 48" W X 82" H

48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	TEMPERED & FROSTED
NON-OPERATIONAL	

48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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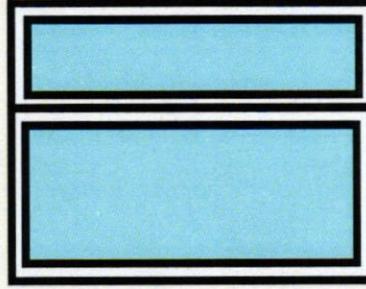
48" X 82"	TEMPERED & FROSTED
NON-OPERATIONAL	

48" X 82"	TEMPERED & FROSTED
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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NON-OPERATIONAL	48 X 60	↑ SH
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NON-OPERATIONAL	48 X 60	↑ SH
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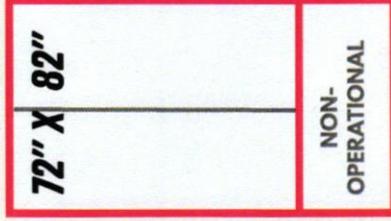
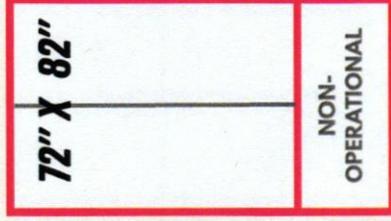
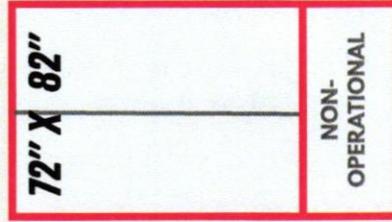
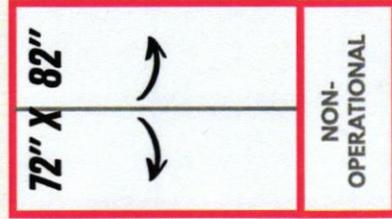
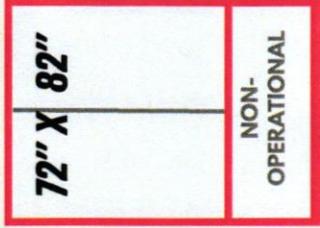
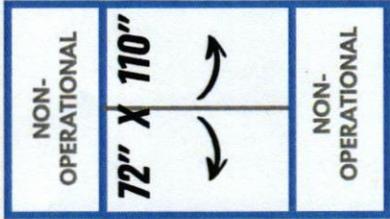
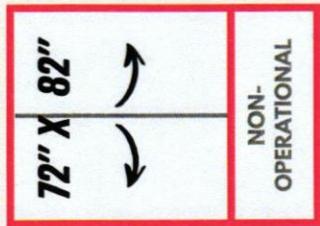
NON-OPERATIONAL	48 X 47 FROST & TEMP-	↑ SH
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NON-OPERATIONAL	48 X 47 FROST & TEMP-	↑ SH
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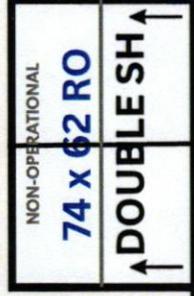
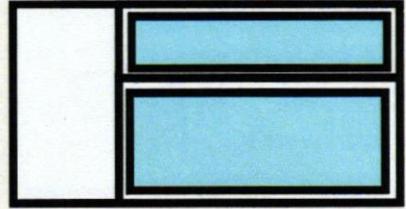
WINDOW
DOOR

CHISHOLM SIDE

RO: 72" W X 110" H

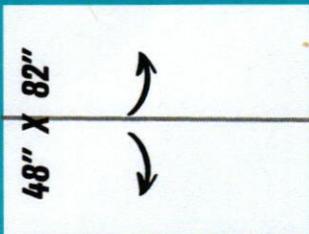


RO: 72" W X 82" H



9TH STREET

RO: 48" W X 82" H

48" X 82" 	NON-OPERATIONAL
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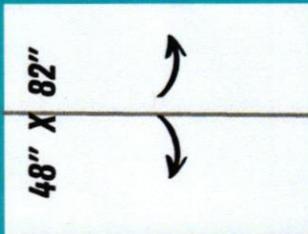
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82" TEMPERED & FROSTED	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82" TEMPERED & FROSTED	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82" TEMPERED & FROSTED	NON-OPERATIONAL
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NON-OPERATIONAL 48 X 60 SH ↑

NON-OPERATIONAL 48 X 60 SH ↑

NON-OPERATIONAL 48 X 60 SH ↑

NON-OPERATIONAL 48 X 60 SH ↑

8TH STREET

RO: 48" W X 82" H

48" X 82" ↩ ↪	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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48" X 82"	NON-OPERATIONAL
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HVAC

HVAC

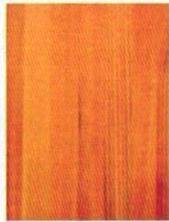
NON-OPERATIONAL
48 X 60
SH ↑

NON-OPERATIONAL
48 X 60
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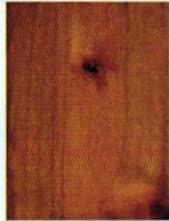
Interior Wood Species



Clear Select Pine



Douglas Fir



Natural Alder

Prefinished Stained Interiors



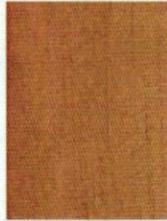
Clear



Sunlight



Provincial



Tea with Milk



Antique Barrel



Perfect Brown



Intensive



Chestnut



Espresso

Prefinished Painted Interiors ✓



Painted White



Painted Black



Painted Gray

Casement & Awning Hardware



Traditional Casement

Available in eight finishes.



Contemporary Casement

Available in eight finishes.

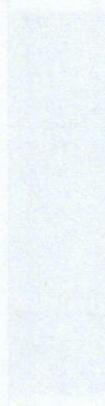
AVAILABLE FINISH



Champagne



Faux Bronze



White



Oil Rubbed Bronze



Bronze



Satin Nickel



Black



Bright Brass



Artistic rendering of the new windows, which will respect the historical aspect and return them nearer to how they would have originally looked. (not color accurate)



Alpena County Courthouse

Dave Murphy Builders LLC
3074 Michigan 32
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 657-0860
murphybltrs@gmail.com

720 West Chisholm Street - Alpena, MI 49707

Jesse Osmer
989-354-9500

OSMERJ@alpenacounty.org

Window & Door Infrastructure Upgrades

Replacement of existing Courthouse windows and entry doors with upgraded Windsor Pinnacle Clad windows and Total Security Solutions steel security doors to improve building security, durability, and energy performance.

Window & Door Replacement Scope of Work

1. Entry Door Replacement

Remove 2 existing entry door units and install 2 new Total Security Solutions steel full-lite doors with full-view sidelites.

Doors will include:

- Level 3 Security GCP glazing
- Welded steel frames
- Color-matched door and frame finish
- Door closer
- Panic hardware
- Door handle set
- Keypad entry system

Exterior & Interior Finish: Charcoal Gray

2. Window Removal & Replacement

Remove and properly dispose of 64 existing windows. Supply and install new Windsor Pinnacle Clad windows in the following configurations:

- 39 Double Casement windows with transom picture windows below
- 7 Obscured Double Casement windows with transom picture windows below
- 5 Double Casement windows with transom picture windows above and below
- 8 Horizontal (egress compliant) Sliding windows
- 2 Obscured Horizontal (egress compliant) Sliding windows
- 1 Set of Double Hung windows
- 1 Stationary Picture window above entry door
- 1 Three-unit stationary window assembly installed over existing stained glass



Alpena County Courthouse

720 West Chisholm Street - Alpena, MI 49707

3. Window Specifications

All windows will include:

- Energy Star rated glass package
- Low-E coated glass for improved energy efficiency
- Tempered safety glass where required
- 6-9/16" jamb extensions
- Obscured privacy glass at bathroom locations
- Casement windows equipped with sash limiters
- Black insect screens

Interior trim to include quarter-round molding where necessary, painted and installed.

Exterior Finish: Charcoal Gray

Interior Finish: Black / Stained in Courtroom

4. Installation

All windows and doors will be installed, sealed, and weatherproofed in accordance with manufacturer specifications, applicable building codes and best industry practices.

All required permits, debris removal, and disposal of building materials are included in this proposal.



Alpena County Courthouse

720 West Chisholm Street - Alpena, MI 49707

Exterior Window & Door Infrastructure Upgrades

Proper installation, sealing, and weatherproofing of all windows and doors will be completed in accordance with manufacturer specifications and applicable building codes.

All required permits, debris removal, and disposal of building materials are included in this proposal.

Item	Activity	Quantity
Window & Door Removal & Prep	Remove	1 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Double Casement w/ (1) Transom	Supply and Install	33 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Double Casement w/ (1) Transom -Obscured	Supply and Install	7 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Double Casement w/ (1) Transom	Supply and Install	6 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Double Casement w/ (2) Transom	Supply and Install	5 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Glide By- Obscured	Supply and Install	2 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Glide By	Supply and Install	8 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Dual Double Hung	Supply and Install	1 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Picture Window	Supply and Install	1 EA
Windsor Pinnacle Clad- Direct Set Picture	Supply and Install	1 EA
Heavy Equipment	Supply and Install	1 EA
TSS Steel Door Full-Lite w/ Side Lite (Overall: 65" X 86")	Supply and Install	1 EA
TSS Steel Door Full-Lite w/ Side Lite (Overall: 66" X 87")	Supply and Install	1 EA
Door closer - Heavy duty - Commercial grade	Remove and Replace	2 EA
Exit Device & Door Handle	Supply and Install	2 EA
Commercial Door key pad - Detach & reset	Supply and Install	2 EA
Taxes, insurance, permits & fees	Supply and Install	1 EA
Group total		\$526,828.88



Proposal
March 6, 2026

Alpena County Courthouse

720 West Chisholm Street - Alpena, MI 49707

Summary

Group Name	Total
Exterior Window & Door Infrastructure Upgrades	526,828.88

Project Total	\$526,828.88
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PHOTO EVIDENCE OF NEED



Many of our windows are “locked” using sticks and pieces of wood.



Some windows do not shut completely. Many of these are on the second floor, and we do our best to tape them off during the colder months.



The outer window of our historical stained-glass window, located at the first landing of the staircase leading to the courtroom, acts as a shell. Damage has occurred to the glass in the past prior to the barrier being placed. The barrier needs replacing sooner rather than later to prevent future damage to the stained glass.



In this photo you can see that staff have had to put cloth between the panes to try and prevent heavy drafts near their work stations.



Some of the panes have jammed in a crooked matter, preventing us from properly utilizing the windows during warmer weather. In this photo you can see the crooked frame.

MEDIA COVERAGE AND SUPPORT

https://www.truenorthradionetwork.com/news/county-continues-to-look-into-courthouse-safety-security/article_41e0c477-a04e-4184-8de4-99b4a207a7a5.html

FEATURED

County continues to look into courthouse safety/security

Phil Heimerl
Dec 31, 2025



Alpena County Commissioners continue to look into options to increase safety and security measures for judges, lawyers, and others entering court buildings.

There are currently few to no safety measures in place other than handheld metal detectors or security wands, which are typically only used during so-called high profile cases.

A mobile, free standing metal detector was purchased for District Court years ago, but the main issue with that is having available funding and manpower to properly staff it.

Attorneys and judges have been asking the county for many years to spend money on security improvements, but so far no real changes have emerged from discussions. During a recent sub-committee meeting, Commissioner Lucille Bray said she would be visiting other courthouses in the region to see what safety and security measures they have in place and the cost of those measures.

In addition, Bray and other commissioners have been meeting with

Deputy Michael Lash from the sheriff's office who is assisting the county with his knowledge.

More discussion among commissioners and others are expected to take place again when the Courts and Public Safety Committee meets in January or February.

Phil Heimerl

News Director



March 6, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

As Community Editor of *The Alpena News*, I am writing to express our full support for the county's grant request to fund the replacement of windows at the courthouse as part of its ongoing effort to strengthen safety and security measures.

Should the grant be approved, *The Alpena News* is committed to providing clear, informative coverage to help keep the public aware of the project's progress and its benefits to the community. We believe that sharing these updates is an important part of supporting public understanding and strengthening trust in local government initiatives.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued dedication to improving the safety and quality of public facilities within our county.

Sincerely,

Steve Schulwitz
Community Editor, *The Alpena News*

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

26th CIRCUIT COURT

K. Edward Black
CHIEF JUDGE

720 W. CHISHOLM STREET, SUITE 1
ALPENA, MI 49707
(989) 354-9573



ALPENA COUNTY
MONTMORENCY COUNTY

March 6, 2026

Congressman Jack Bergman
566 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: 2027 Community Funding Project"

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the grant application submitted by Alpena County requesting funding to replace the existing windows at the Alpena County Courthouse. This improvement is necessary to ensure the continued safety and security of all individuals who work in, utilize, and serve within our courthouse facilities.

As a judge, I am acutely aware of the increasing security demands placed upon judicial facilities. Courtrooms regularly host high-risk proceedings, emotionally charged cases, and individuals who may pose safety risks. It is imperative that our physical infrastructure provides a secure environment in which justice can be administered without disruption or danger.

I fully support this grant request and respectfully urge your favorable consideration. Investing in courthouse security is an investment in public safety, judicial integrity, and the smooth functioning of our justice system.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Very Respectfully,

K. Edward Black
26th Circuit Court Judge

Alpena County Courthouse
720 W. Chisholm Street
Alpena, MI 49707

March 6, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to express our strong support for the installation of new, safety-enhanced windows in the Alpena County Courthouse. As a central facility serving the public, employees, elected officials, and members of the justice system, the courthouse must maintain the highest standards of safety, security, and structural integrity.

Over time, the current windows have become increasingly inadequate in meeting modern safety expectations. Upgrading to impact-resistant, energy-efficient, and security-rated windows would provide several critical benefits:

1. Improved Safety and Security

Enhanced windows offer improved protection against severe weather, accidental breakage, and security threats, ensuring the safety of all individuals who work in or visit the courthouse.

2. Energy Efficiency and Cost Savings

Modern, insulated window systems help regulate indoor temperatures more effectively, resulting in long-term reductions in heating and cooling costs for the county.

3. Noise Reduction

Updated windows can significantly reduce outside noise pollution, supporting a more focused and professional environment for court proceedings and administrative work.

4. Preservation of a Historic and Essential Building

Many courthouses are iconic public structures. Investing in durable, high-quality windows help preserve the building's integrity while aligning it with modern operational needs.

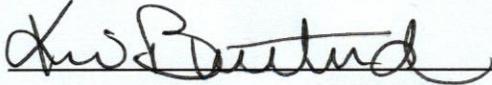
5. Enhanced Public Confidence

Demonstrating a commitment to safety and facility improvement reinforces public trust in our local government and the justice system.

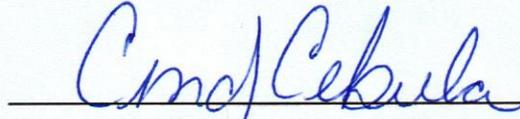
For these reasons, we fully support the proposal to replace the existing windows with upgraded, code-compliant, safety-oriented alternatives. This investment is essential not only for the protection of staff and visitors but also for the long-term sustainability and functionality of our courthouse.

Thank you for your consideration of this important improvement project.

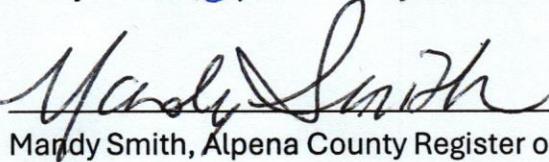
Sincerely,



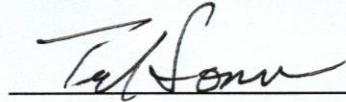
Keri Bertrand, Alpena County Clerk



Cindy Cebula, Alpena County Treasurer



Mandy Smith, Alpena County Register of Deeds



Ted Somers, Alpena County Equalization Director

Alpena County I.T. Department

I.T. Director: Logan Kemp
720 W. Chisholm St
Alpena, MI 49707
989-354-9596



DATE: March 06, 2026
TO: Grant Administrator
FROM: Logan Kemp, I.T. Director
SUBJECT: Letter of Support – Courthouse Security Grant

I am writing to express my strong support for the courthouse security grant proposal to fund the replacement of windows throughout the courthouse.

As the IT Department is located in the basement of the courthouse, several window wells provide direct access to both the IT office and the server room. These areas support systems that process, store, and transmit Criminal Justice Information (CJI), making physical security controls a critical requirement. CJIS Security Policy v6.0 requires agencies to maintain effective physical security controls for systems supporting Criminal Justice Information. Controls PE-3 (Physical Access Control), PE-2 (Physical Access Authorizations), and PE-6 (Monitoring Physical Access) collectively require that physically secure locations prevent unauthorized access and exposure. The installation of upgraded windows directly supports these mandated controls by strengthening the physical perimeter of the IT office where CJIS-related systems are administered.

Furthermore, the installation of new, properly sealed windows is imperative for disaster preparedness and operational resilience. In the event of flooding or severe weather, improved window seals can provide valuable time to safely power down systems and protect critical equipment, helping to preserve information integrity and prevent data loss. These improvements also support staff safety during emergency situations such as fires, active threats, or other evacuation scenarios. New, operable windows would allow for quicker and safer exit options, whereas the current windows either do not open or are extremely difficult to operate, significantly limiting egress during time-critical events.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued support of courthouse safety and security initiatives.

Respectfully,

Logan Kemp
IT Director
County of Alpena