



**tcyp**

TRAVERSE CITY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS  
A PROGRAM OF THE TRAVERSE CITY  
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# *Young Professionals Advocacy Steering Committee*

**Mission Statement: To enlighten, steer, and educate the TCYP members in order to empower, support, and maintain a united voice and a community engaged membership.**

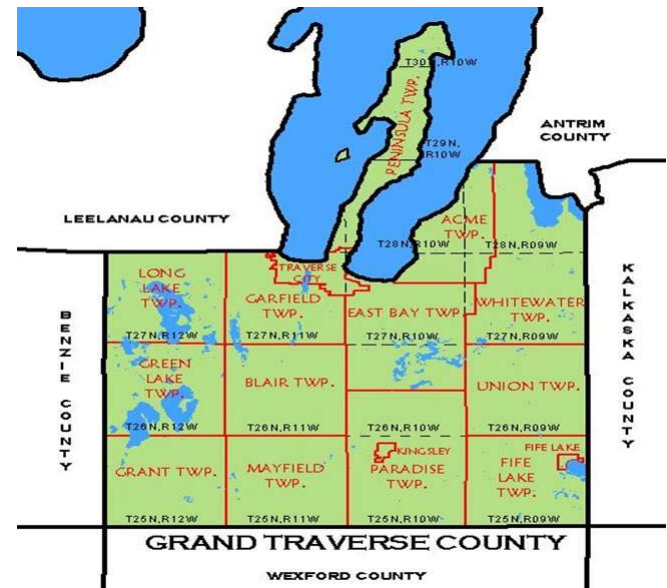




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- Geographic Area: Grand Traverse County
- Areas of Emphasis
  - Quality of Life
  - Job Growth, Creation and Entrepreneurship
  - Housing Inventory & Affordability
  - General Local Business Support





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## • Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce Local Advocacy Priorities

### Advocating for an Investment & Talent Ready Community

#### *Enabling Private Investment*

- Support Robust Community Planning efforts, then back them up
- Support Clear, straight forward zoning regulations, then back them up
- Invite and enable private investment
  - City become a Redevelopment Ready Community (MEDC designation)
  - Corridors ready for development
  - Support City/County economic development coordination
- Support robust use of available development tools
  - TIF/Brownfield Redevelopment/Transformational Brownfield/DDA
- Inspection & Code enforcement
  - Timely permitting if building by right
  - Timely inspection response
  - High customer service marks
  - Departments properly staffed to meet needs

#### *Investing in a Healthy Community*

- Continue to support investment in parks
  - Continue to support private investment in Hickory Hills, Boardman River Trail
- Support Munson expansion project
- Citywide storm water management plan
- Work towards a strategy for zero beach closures

#### *Supporting Investment in Infrastructure*

- Support implementation Downtown Development Authority master plan
- Road millage
- Public transit
- Support new Airport investment
- Push for broadband/fiber investment in the community



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## • Areas for Potential Young Professional Advocacy Efforts

### Advocating for an Investment & Talent Ready Community

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#### *Supporting Investment in Infrastructure*

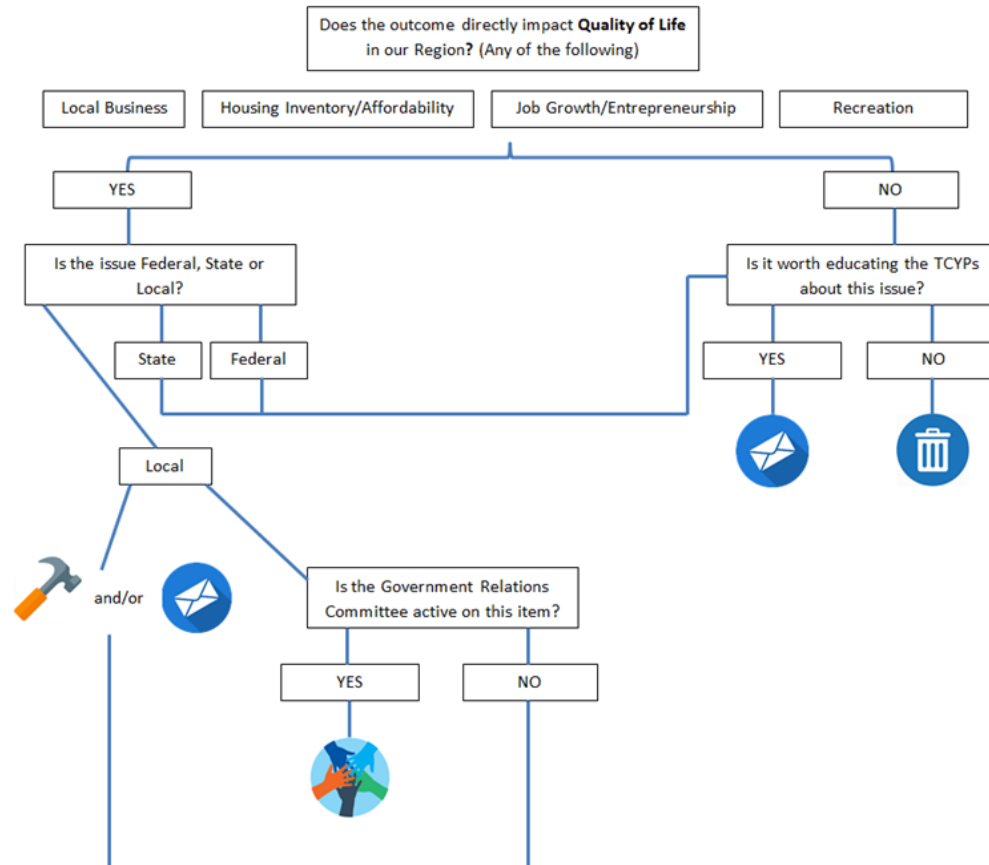
- Support implementation Downtown Development Authority master plan
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## • Decision Tree







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- Hot Topics
  - Fiber
  - BATA Millage
  - School Funding Equity



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## ● Fiber

### CHAMBER BOARD TALKS FIBER OPTIONS



April 12th, 2017 Business News, Chamber News No Comments

The Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce has opened dialogue with Traverse City Light & Power Co. over the utility's study of possible development of a fiber-optic network to deliver high-speed internet service to business and residential customers in the utility's service district.

Light & Power representatives have met with the Chamber's Government Relations Committee and the Chamber to discuss the idea. Utility officials said it built an expansive fiber network within its service area about 10 years ago that has limited use for some area operation including Munson Healthcare. But it's considered an "under-utilized asset", they said, and could be upgraded to give its business and residential customers a new and potentially lower-cost option for high-speed internet service.

Utility officials said the estimated start-up costs would be around \$16 million, which would be funded by city bonding to be paid off over a 20-year period. The system could be operated by Light & Power or the utility could contract with a private firm to operate the system.

Light & Power officials are seeking input on the concept from the local business community and residents within its service district. If you have questions or comments, contact Chamber Government Relations Director Kent Wood at [kentw@tcchamber.org](mailto:kentw@tcchamber.org)

- <http://tcchamber.org/2017/04/chamber-board-talks-fiber-options/>

Potential Action Item: Contact TCL&P Board Members



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- BATA Millage



- Potential Action Items:
  - Vote on Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Send a Letter to the Editor to the Traverse City Record Eagle
  - Yard Sign, etc. Contact Friends of BATA if you would like to show your support





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- K-12 School Funding Equity

## [Alliance Prepares To Engage In 2x Funding Push For Education](#)

Posted on **April 7, 2017** by Kent Wood

### The Issue

One of the hallmark advocacy policies for the Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance has been the push to close the funding equity gap in per pupil funding school districts around the state receive in the state budget.

Historically, the Alliance has advocated for the 2x formula – where school districts receiving the minimum per pupil allowance would receive two times the amount of increase as school districts receiving the maximum allowance. For example, an increase of \$20 dollars for districts receiving the maximum would mean a \$40 increase for districts with the minimum allowance. The policy behind it is to close the gap between the minimum and maximum districts.

Currently, the minimum districts receive \$7,511 per pupil, while the maximum districts receive \$8,229 per pupil – a gap of \$718.

[Learn more about the school aid foundation allowance](#)

- <https://nmichiganbusiness.com/2017/04/07/alliance-prepares-to-engage-in-2x-funding-push-for-education/>

Potential Action Item: Call/Email Your State Representative



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- Know of other local issues we should be educating or advocating for on the behalf of Young Professionals?

Contact Us at:

[tcypadvocacycommittee@gmail.com](mailto:tcypadvocacycommittee@gmail.com)