



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
SAGINAW BAY DISTRICT OFFICE



DAN WYANT  
DIRECTOR

March 17, 2015

Mr. Tim Morales  
City Manager  
City of Saginaw  
1315 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48601

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: Former Saginaw Malleable Iron Property

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) supports the use of the former Saginaw Malleable Iron property for passive recreational use at the proposed Riverfront Park. Although there is subsurface contamination that will remain at the property, the use of the surface for passive recreational use is an excellent option for long term use of the property. The remedial measures and controls that prevent exposure to the subsurface contamination can be compatible with the surficial use of property for activities such as hiking, bird and wildlife watching, and bike trails. For example, a protective soil cover could be constructed over the remaining plant foundation that could support prairie grass and native vegetation. The existing parking lots could provide motorized access to the property while hard surfaced bike and walking trails could provide access to the bulk of the property for recreational exercise and wildlife observation. Ecological studies have shown that the contamination does not pose a threat to the flora or fauna and the property currently supports diverse abundant wildlife. This property abuts the urban area and would provide excellent opportunities for urban recreation.

The MDEQ believes that with the combined cooperation of the state, The Nature Conservancy, City of Saginaw, Saginaw County, and the RACER Trust, a long term use plan can be developed that is protective, functional, and enjoyable. This use would enhance and combine surrounding recreational and nature areas. Please contact Sue Kaelber-Matlock, project manager, at [matlocks@michigan.gov](mailto:matlocks@michigan.gov) or at 989-894-6249 or me at the number below if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Klann, District Supervisor  
Saginaw Bay District Office  
Remediation and Redevelopment Division  
989-894-6248  
[klannr@michigan.gov](mailto:klannr@michigan.gov)

cc: Mr. Rich Tuzisky, Nature Conservancy  
Mr. Dave Favero, RACER Trust  
Mr. Robert Belleman, Saginaw County  
Ms. Sue Kaelber-Matlock, MDEQ