



Traverse City Planning Commission,

I am writing on the behalf of the Aspire North REALTORS®, an association of more than 1,200 REALTORS® and Affiliate members dedicated to serving our members, thoughtfully conserving our resources, preserving our industry, and elevating consumers' access to real property and private property rights in a sustainable way. We would like to extend our support for the efforts of the Traverse City Planning Commission and Traverse City Commission to increase housing attainability in the Traverse City community.

Following decades of underbuilding and underinvestment, the United States has an underbuilding gap of more than 5 million housing units, which is only exacerbated in desirable communities like Traverse City and the Northern Michigan region. Housing is among the most critical pieces of our national infrastructure. Yet we have a chronic shortage of attainable and available housing as a result of a severe lack of new construction and prolonged underinvestment in housing. To right the scale of underbuilding and the existing demand-supply gap will require a major commitment to build more housing of all types.

We applaud and support the Traverse City Planning Commission and the Traverse City Commission for their goal to expand housing opportunities outlined in the 2023 Traverse City Planning Commission Annual Goals. We support their efforts to explore all opportunities to build more housing of all types by expanding resources and addressing barriers to new development. We are eager to continue our support of their efforts to create an environment that can foster the development of all housing types in a thoughtful and sustainable way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kimberly Pontius". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kimberly Pontius
CEO
Aspire North REALTORS®

