



**Village of Cassopolis Planning Commission  
2019 Annual Report**

The Planning Commission of the Village of Cassopolis is governed by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act {PA33 of 2008 as amended} and by the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Cassopolis. Additionally, the Village Council of the Village of Cassopolis may refer issues to the Planning Commission for study and input. During 2018, the following were members of the Commission:

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER	TERM EXPIRATION
Julie Hartman, Chair	April 2020
Lisa Cutting, Member	April 2019
Christian Jackson, Member	April 2021
Vacant	Vacant as of September 2019
Vacant	Vacant as of December 2019

Village Staff/Planning Commission Liaisons: Emilie Sarratore, Village Manager and Tonia Betty, Village Clerk

In fulfillment of the requirements of the Municipal Planning Enabling Act {PA33 of 2008 as amended}, the Village of Cassopolis Planning Commission presents the following report covering significant action by the Commission for calendar year 2019.

**Annual Report**

The Planning Commission met on March 11, 2019 to approve the annual report 2018 including the activities of the prior year and the goals of the commission going forward. Discussion included the Village’s goal to continue working towards becoming RRC certified.

**Medical Marijuana** The Planning Commission was tasked by the Village Council to provide recommendations regarding the changes in zoning and ordinances for Medical Marijuana. The Planning Commission met on June 6<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup>, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, and November 25<sup>th</sup> regarding this issue. After much debate, on July 31<sup>st</sup>, the planning commission unanimously voted on a recommendation for the location, number and types of Medical Marijuana licenses

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Planning Commission approved a draft medical marijuana ordinance to be presented to council, however, they did not approve the draft zoning updates that would be required under the marijuana ordinance.

### **Site Plan Reviews**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Cassopolis, the Commission did not consider any Site Plans for the year.

### **Variances**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Cassopolis, the Commission did not consider any applications for Zoning Variances for the year.

### **Zoning**

The planning Commission received and approved zoning requests for the following properties at their June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting:

600 E. State Street

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The Planning Commission reviewed multiple zoning ordinance changes including allowing for medical marijuana, as well as updates to the zoning to comply with the best practices for RRC. The planning commission failed to reach consensus on some of these recommendations, and the Village Council proceeded.

### **Special Land Use**

The Commission did not consider any applications for Special Land Use permits this year.

### **Capital Improvement Plan**

The updated Capital Improvement Plan was recommended to the Village of Cassopolis for approval.

### **Goals for 2020**

- Present recommendations to the Council for nonmotorized transportation ordinance improvements and green infrastructure improvements.
- Finalize all zoning requirements and recommendations to comply with RRC best practices.
- Prepare recommendation for Village Council regarding recreational marijuana.
- Host a combined meeting with the Village Council.