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Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Planning Commission on November 14th, 2002 and by the Board of Commissioners on November 26th, 2002.

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PREFACE

Dear Residents of Clinton County:

As members of the Clinton County Planning Commission, we are pleased to have been a part of the development of the 2002 Clinton County Comprehensive Plan and present this document as a guide for planning and land use decisions within Clinton County.

In the development of the Comprehensive Plan, public input was essential to the planning process and provided the vital information from which the resulting goals were developed and policy recommendations were made. Outstanding public attendance at three public forums showed a definite interest in the process and the resulting plan. Meetings and workshops with various interest groups, such as agricultural, business and environmental, further echoed this interest. The members of the Planning Commission also made a concerted effort to solicit input from the 13 non-charter townships throughout the planning process and finally in presentations to each of these township boards.

To create the goals of the Comprehensive Plan, the Planning Commission members weighed the need for development with the desire to preserve the County's rural character. An important aspect of the plan development is the acknowledgement that Clinton County is an integral part of the Lansing Metropolitan area, but has its own unique values and characteristics. We believe that the development of a plan that emphasizes open space preservation and cluster development affords a community the opportunity to be pro-active in the future shape and

form of their community. The Comprehensive Plan builds the foundation to guide intensive growth and development away from rural lands and preservation areas into existing built environments that offer the infrastructure and levels of services necessary to support higher densities and intensity of uses.

Although the development of this document has provided us with a sense of satisfaction, our work as a Planning Commission and community is far from over. The Comprehensive Plan serves as the initial step in a broader process to update the Clinton County Zoning Ordinance. The goals and policies set forth in the Comprehensive Plan and reflected in the Future Land Use Map (Map 7) need to be implemented through the update of the Zoning Ordinance. We will continue to work with local township and municipal officials and county residents to produce a Zoning Ordinance that meets the needs of the community and the goals and policies set forth in the Comprehensive Plan. As this process continues, we encourage and ask that county residents continue to be involved in the planning process. Participation is essential to guiding the future of Clinton County with a common vision.

Sincerely,

Members of the Clinton County Planning Commission,

James Ostrowski, Vice-Chair
 Russel Bauerle, BOC Representative
 James Squires
 Ernest Sakraska, Chair
 Jerome Spitzley
 Harold Rappuhn, Secretary
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