Gateway to Success: Better Development by Design for Copper Country Communities

Unplanned or poorly planned development can have significant impacts on natural and cultural resources. Communities want their economies to grow without losing what makes them special—scenic landscapes, historic downtowns, and places of unique cultural character and natural beauty.

Gateway to Success: Better Development by Design is the topic of a two-part workshop to be conducted from 6:30-8:30 pm, Tuesdays, May 10 & 17, on the second floor of the Memorial Union Building at Michigan Technological University. Businesses, township and city officials, planning council members, government agencies, and community residents are invited to attend. All workshop participants will receive a free copy of Design Guidelines to Enhance Community Appearance and Protect Natural Resources, a 65-page guidebook that compares traditional development to a more visually appealing approach that protects the natural and cultural resources of a community.

The guidebook addresses twenty of the most common development issues including: shoreline development, water quality and storm water management, landscape character protection, visual corridors, pedestrian accessibility, historic preservation, signage, lighting, and more. The Smart Growth Network selected the guidebook for inclusion on their Smart Growth Shareware CD being distributed to 10,000 communities throughout the United States.

The Gateway to Success workshops are being co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country, Keweenaw Community Foundation, Keweenaw Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Keweenaw Industrial Council, Keweenaw Land Trust, and others.

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