

CITY OF HOUGHTON  
COOPERATION, COLLABORATION AND CONSOLIDATION  
**UPDATED PLAN**

2012 PLAN:

Cities of Hancock & Houghton & Franklin Townships (\$500,000 savings)

1. Proposal to allow Franklin Township's Ripley Neighborhood to connect new sewer distribution system to Portage Lake Water & Sewage Authority (PLWSA) sewer treatment plant.
  
2. Project Time Line
  - a. September 1, 2012, contract negotiations started between Franklin Township board, the PLWSA board and both cities.
  - b. December 19, 2012 agreement approved by the PLWSA board, the City of Houghton and the City of Hancock Councils.
  - c. May 1, 2013 bid opening date for project.
  - d. November 30, 2013 construction completion.
  
3. Barriers
  - a. None
  
4. Details
  - a. The project will connect 120 residential dwellings, 10 businesses, and 4 municipal buildings to a new sewer distribution project to be constructed in 2013, treatment to be provided by the Cities of Hancock and Houghton owned Municipal PLWSA Treatment Plant located in Houghton. Current sewer treatment capacity is minimal with very old septic tanks and community cesspools, most of them are inadequate.

NEW 2013 PLAN:

Cities of Houghton and Hancock and Michigan Tech University (Estimated Value \$50,000)

1. Participate in a joint transit study by Michigan Tech Transportation Enterprise students to evaluate ways to make both cities' transit systems more efficient and affordable, with an emphasis on developing commuter fixed routes for both students and employees.
2. Time Line.
  - a. August 25, 2011 Michigan Tech University secures \$50,000 Ford College Community Challenge grant to allow transportation engineering enterprise students to undertake a 2-year study.
  - b. May 1, 2013 study to be completed.
3. Barriers
  - a. Funding.
4. Details
  - a. Michigan Tech students, faculty, both cities, and the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Design will collaborate to develop ways to reduce traffic and parking problems around the university campus, promote more student & faculty & staff utilization of both cities transit bus systems, and look for ways to finance an expansion of both bus systems, to increase hours of operations and usage. Part of the study included conducting surveys and interviews with bus riders which will be used to develop a sustainable model bus system.

Revision Dated: January 28, 2013



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Scott MacInnes, City Manager  
City of Houghton