



**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
AGENDA FOR
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
GRAND HAVEN CITY HALL*
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
519 WASHINGTON AVE**

**September 21, 2026
6:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. The Mayor opens the public hearing regarding a resolution to request the Department of Natural Resources investigate and hold a public hearing to determine the need for speed control on the Grand River adjacent to the frontage of Eastpointe RV Resort Marina located at 200 N Beechtree St.
- B. The Mayor closes the public hearing.

4. ADJOURNMENT

City of Grand Haven
City Manager's Office
616-847-4888



MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashley Latsch – City Manager

CC: Dana Kollweher – Assistant City Manager

FROM: Derek Gajdos – Project Management Director *DG*

DATE: September 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Eastpoint RV Park Marina – No Wake Zone Extension Request

On behalf of the owner and their representatives, Eastpointe RV Park Marina has officially requested that the City consider extending the no wake zone on the Grand River fronting their property.

The request is outlined in the attached letter from the owner's engineer. For consideration, a draft of a potential resolution provided by the property owner is attached.

Additionally, an outline of procedures required by the DNR to amend watercraft speeds within the City, and under state rules, is attached. In summary, the Council will need to send a resolution to the DNR to study the requested watercraft speed change and give back findings for the City Council to consider and potentially adopt. In doing so, the DNR will conduct an additional public hearing. If changes were recommended and ultimately desired, we would then need to then amend the City's Harbor and Waterways ordinance.

The City's current ordinance is located in Chapter 18, Article IV Section 18-51 (5) which further outlines the current eastern boundary of the City's no wake zone as Beechtree Street extended north to the City's corporate limits.

The property owner's representatives have advised that the current no wake extension request is the only changes being considered and requested at this time (no other no wake zone extensions requests to our neighboring municipalities).



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



DANIEL EICHINGER
DIRECTOR

Procedures for Permanent Local Watercraft Control

Local units of government that believe that a special local watercraft control (LWC) is needed on waters subject to their jurisdiction shall follow the procedures established in [MCL 324.80110](#) through [324.80112](#). Those procedures are detailed below. Local Watercraft Control is state terminology. When a local unit of government adopts a LWC they may use the term ordinance. The local unit of government initiates the process by submitting a resolution to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The DNR shall investigate the need for special regulations for the use of vessel and other contrivances on the waters of the state to assure compatibility of uses and to protect public safety. Submitting a resolution does not guarantee approval of a LWC.

- 1) When a local unit of government believes a regulation is needed for the use of vessels on waters within their jurisdiction, they may submit a resolution for a LWC to the DNR Law Enforcement Division (LED).
 - a) The resolution shall be approved by a majority of the governing body of the local unit of government following a public hearing on the resolution.
 - i) The hearing must be specific on the resolution and **not part of their regular meetings**.
 - b) The resolution and hearing minutes shall be submitted to the DNR LED.
- 2) Once the request and resolution are received, the DNR will initiate an investigation and inquiry as directed in [MCL 324.80110](#).
- 3) Upon completion of the investigation and inquiry, the DNR will prepare a preliminary report that includes the findings of the investigation and a preliminary recommendation as to whether special rules are needed for the body of water, and submit a copy of the preliminary report to the local unit of government.
- 4) The DNR will work with the local unit of government to schedule a public hearing in the vicinity of the body of water to gather public input.
 - a) The public hearing will be scheduled and advertised at least 10 days (typically 30 days) prior to the hearing.
 - b) The DNR shall provide notice of the public hearing made in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the water body is located.
 - c) It is recommended the local unit of government provide notice of the public hearing through any and all media and advertising platforms they have available.
- 5) The DNR will facilitate the public hearing.
 - a) At the public hearing, interested persons shall be afforded an opportunity to present their views on the preliminary report and the need for special rules, either orally or in writing.
 - b) The DNR will accept written comments for 30 days after the date of the public hearing.

- 6) Within 90 days after the public hearing, if the DNR determines there is a need for a LWC, the DNR will propose a LWC to the local unit of government.
 - a) The proposed LWC becomes valid only after the following conditions are met.
 - i) The local unit of government adopts the LWC in its entirety at a public meeting.
 - A. The wording used in the local unit of government's ordinance shall be identical to the proposed LWC recommended by the DNR.
 - ii) The local unit of government notifies the DNR of the adoption.
 - A. Notification to the DNR shall include all the following:
 - 1) A copy of minutes from the public meeting showing the adoption.
 - 2) Proof of publication in a locally circulated newspaper. The proof of publication must show the date and the name of the newspaper.
 - A. The page directly from the newspaper, or
 - B. A photocopy of the page from the newspaper
 - b) The conditions in 6) a) must be completed within 60 days from the date the DNR submits the proposed LWC to the local unit of government.
 - i) If the local unit of government fails to notify the DNR within 60 days, the proposed LWC is considered disapproved.
- 7) If the DNR determines there is not a need for a LWC, the DNR shall notify the local unit of government and provide the specific reasons for the denial.
 - a) The local unit of government may appeal to the Director of the DNR.
 - A. The Director shall make the final decision.
- 8) Other responsibilities of the local unit of government.
 - a) The boundaries of the area described in the LWC shall be marked with signs and/or with buoys and maintained by the local unit of government.
 - i) The local unit of government is responsible for the purchase, placement, maintenance and removal of all signs and buoys.
 - ii) All buoys must be placed as provided in a permit [Application for Permit to Place Buoys/Beacons in Michigan Water {PR9203}](#) issued by the DNR and be in conformance with the [State Uniform Waterway Marking System](#).
 - iii) Buoys shall not be placed in a commercial shipping channel.
 - b) Any state, county or local law enforcement officer having jurisdiction over the controlled area can enforce the LWC or ordinance.
 - i) A LWC or ordinance is only enforceable when clearly and properly marked.
 - c) It is recommended the local unit of government post signs at any public launches, marinas and beaches educating boaters of the LWC or ordinance.
 - d) It is recommended the local unit of government post information on their website and social media platforms educating boaters of the LWC or ordinance.
- 9) A LWC or ordinance can only be requested for waters within the jurisdictional boundaries of a local unit of government.

10) If a body of water is within multiple jurisdictions, each local unit of government shall follow this process to request a restriction within their jurisdiction.

11) Local units of government can email their requests to DNR-LED-RecSafety@michigan.gov or mail them to:

DNR-LED
P.O. Box 30031
Lansing, MI 48909
Attn: Boating Law Administrator

Submitting an application and resolution does not guarantee the approval of a LWC.

September 10, 2026

Grand Haven City Council
c/o Derek Gajdos
519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Re: Request for Resolution for Permanent Local Watercraft Control
Eastpointe RV Resort Marina - 200 N. Beechtree Street

Dear Mr. Gajdos:

Thank you for considering our request for a public hearing to evaluate the need to extend the no-wake zone on the Grand River within the City of Grand Haven, adjacent to the above-referenced site. The attached map shows the proposed extension area.

Docks were originally approved by the city on the south/east portion of the subject property in 2014 and an expansion of the marina to include the remainder of the Grand River frontage including boardwalk and docks (121 boat slips, total) was approved by the city in 2019. The pre-existing no-wake zone on the Grand River currently ends near the western, downstream boundary of the marina. Extending watercraft control further upstream is needed because the entire approximately 1,800 linear feet of Eastpointe RV Resort Marina frontage remains exposed to wave action from unregulated boat speeds and the associated safety and use concerns.

We look forward to the September 21st hearing. In the meantime, please let us know if you have any questions or need additional information.

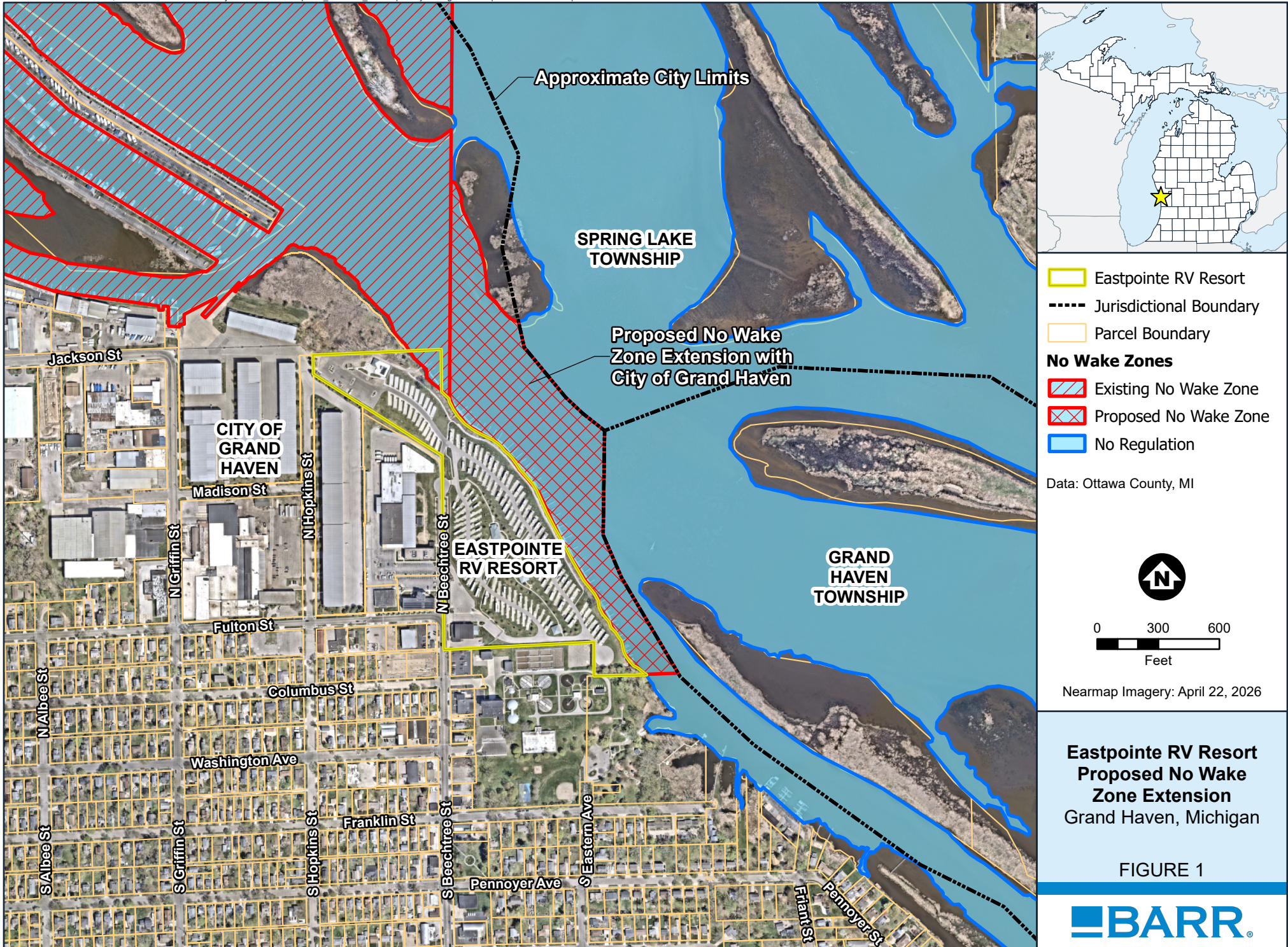
Sincerely,



John R. Vigna
Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosure

cc: Kris Fewless/Joel Wachter (Eastpoint RV Resort)
Doug Austin (Fraser Trebilcock)



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

R E S O L U T I O N

LOCAL WATERCRAFT CONTROL

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Grand Haven, County of Ottawa, State of Michigan, has become aware that recreational boating and surface water use problems exist within the City on the Grand River along the frontage of the Eastpointe RV Resort Marina located at 200 N. Beechtree Street which was determined by a public hearing held on September 21, 2026, at Council Chambers of City Hall, 519 Washington Ave, Grand Haven, MI 49417 and approved by a majority of the members of the City Council.

WHEREAS, such recreational boating and surface water use problems consist of excessive boat speeds along the Grand River immediately upstream of the existing slow no-wake-zone resulting in safety and use concerns along entire frontage of the Eastpointe RV Resort Marina at 200 Beechtree Street and,

WHEREAS, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, Part 801, as amended, requires that the Department of Natural Resources conduct a public hearing and such investigations are deemed necessary prior to recommending local watercraft controls on problem waters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Grand Haven does hereby request the Department of Natural Resources to hold a public hearing to inquire into need for special controls on the Grand River, along the frontage of the Eastpointe RV Resort Marina located at 200 N. Beechtree Street, City of Grand Haven, County of Ottawa, State of Michigan.

VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION: Yeas _____, Nays _____, Absent _____,

Copy of hearing minutes attached _____

I hereby certify the above to be a true and correct transcript of the action taken by the
_____, Board, Township of _____,
_____, County, State of Michigan.

Date _____, Clerk _____

Signature _____

Email _____, Phone _____

Address _____