

# STRENGTHS

- People/range of experience
- Money
- Natural Scenery/Environment/Character
- Low crime rate/Safe communities
- Quaintness/Tradition/"Small Town"
- Civil/Community involvement
- Personal Commitment to Community
- Generosity of Spirit
- Diversity/Value Oriented/Retiree experience
- Shared History
- You have to "WANT TO COME"
- Recreational Opportunities
- Environmental Protection groups



- Native American Heritage
- Health Care system

- No community wide recreational facility
- Public access to the lake
- "Rugged individualism" resistant to giving up their agenda for the whole
- No Regional Resource Map (species, water)
- Downtown housing is owned by "outsiders" - downtown is "dark" (empty)
- Lack of Public Transportation
- Lack of entertainment opportunities for Under 21

# WEAKNESSES

- Traffic
- Housing
- Lack of labor in service jobs
- Limited Resources/Access
- Local graduates cannot come "home" - No work
- Low earnings & High Cost of Living
- Complacency in protecting the environment we have (next generation of "givers")
- Skilled & unskilled
- Independent zoning bodies - where is collaboration?
- Secondary Schools
- Student/Teacher ratios
- Inadequate Public Library Resources

# Opportunities

- Managing growth
- Crucial Opportunity to work together NOW
- A program that preserves Open Space by transferring development rights
- Organizations are in place to employ our needs, we don't have to re-invent
- Opportunity to educate post-graduates in the technical areas
- A community project to mobilize and connect people; emphasize and sustain tradition (City Hall)
- WEB - a strategy to recruit year-round environmentally friendly industry/retail paying
- Bike path system - safety & growth
- Educating "Resorters" generationally
- Integrating the Tribe (Little Traverse Bay Band)
- School re-development could provide opportunity for creating a space for "Under 21 Entertainment"
- Our concern must be for a "LARGER NEIGHBORHOOD"
- Potential development of freeways (widening the pipeline)
- If we lose the "everyday stores" we lose our character
- No REGIONAL planning body to connect the pieces
- Wilderness fragmentation
- Sprawl
- THE PROMOTION OF TOURISM (people with no commitment to community)
- Addictions/Drugs/Alcohol

To think in multi-generational terms

Situation in our water

"dark parks" focusing on the lights of

# THREATS

- Quality healthcare
- Losing our best & brightest
- Low income opportunities & high cost of living
- A "bond issue" for the schools a high retiree population/funding
- A "dark" downtown
- Lack of people to "serve" in public capacity
- Access to the Lake
- Overgrowth/Uncontrolled
- Developing w/o conscience
- Infrastructure overload
- No Affordable Housing contribute people who work here (year round) being able to live here

# Northwest Emmet County Vision 2020

